



Destination Determined



Mexico accepts housing migrants, seeks US development aid

A migrant girl with a U.S. flag sits on the shoulders of a man marching with other migrants to the Chaparral border crossing in Tijuana, Mexico, Sunday, Nov. 25, 2018, as they try to reach the U.S.

Associated Press
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'Hanging' comment on voters' minds in Mississippi runoff

By **EMILY WAGSTER PETTUS**, Associated Press
JACKSON, Miss. (AP) — The

last U.S. Senate race of the midterms was coming to a close Tuesday as Mississippi residents chose between a white Republican Senate appointee whose "public hanging" comments angered many people and a black Democrat who was agriculture secretary when Bill Clinton was in the White House.

History will be made either way: Republican Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith, 59, would be the first woman elected to Congress from Mississippi, and Democrat Mike Espy, 64, would be the state's first African-American U.S. senator since Reconstruction. A spokeswoman for the secretary of state's office, Leah Rupp Smith, said observers from the office were seeing "steady but slow" turnout the first few hours, but the pace was picking up as the poll closing time drew closer.

Espy cast his ballot at a Baptist church in the Jackson suburb of Ridgeland, while Hyde-Smith voted



Democrat Mike Espy speaks with reporters after voting in a runoff election Tuesday, Nov. 27, 2018 in Ridgeland, Miss.

at a volunteer fire department in Brookhaven, about 55 miles (89 kilometers) south of Jackson.

Espy kept to a theme he's emphasized repeatedly: He'd be a senator for all of Mississippi. He said that to win, he can't just rely on African-American voters. He needs white voters, as well.

"I don't talk to them as white voters. I talk to them as Mississippians — Mississippi young people who want to reduce their debt coming out of college, Mississippi young people who want to stay in this state, and not go to Atlanta and Dallas to get a good job," Espy said after voting.

Hyde-Smith hugged supporters at her precinct.

"We have worked very hard, and we feel very good," Hyde-Smith said. Mississippi's past of racist violence became a dominant theme after a video showed Hyde-Smith praising a supporter in early November by saying, "If he invited me to a public hanging, I'd be on the front row." She said it was "an exaggerated expression of regard." More than a week after the video's release, she said she apologized to "anyone that was offended by my comments," but also said the remark was used as a "weapon" against her.

Hyde-Smith was seen in another video talking about making voting difficult for "liberal folks," and a photo circulated of her wearing a replica Confederate military hat during a 2014 visit to Beauvoir, a beachside museum in Biloxi, Mississippi, that was the last home of Confederate president Jefferson Davis.

Critics said Hyde-Smith's comments and Confederate regalia showed callous indifference in a state with a 38 percent black population, and some corporate donors, including Walmart, requested refunds on campaign contributions to her. But Elizabeth Gallinghouse, 84, from the coastal town of Diamondhead, voted for Hyde-Smith and said neither the "hanging" comments nor Hyde-Smith's appearance in the Confederate hat bothered her. "So many things are taken out of context," Gallinghouse said.

"The fact that she toured Jefferson Davis's house — you or I could have done the same thing. They said, 'Put this cap on. Hold this gun.' It was a fun time. She wasn't trying to send any messages."

Mississippi — which still has the Confederate battle emblem on its state flag — has a history of racially motivated lynchings.

Angie Thomas is author of the young adult novel "The Hate U Give," about the killing of an unarmed black teenager by a white police officer. Thomas, 31, cast a ballot for Espy at the same precinct where he voted.

She said Hyde-Smith's remark about hanging "revealed to a lot of people that Mississippi still has a long way to go. Sometimes,

race is something that people don't want to discuss because it's so uncomfortable. But, if nothing else, this has made us realize that we still have so much work to do."

Hyde-Smith was in her second term as Mississippi's elected agriculture commissioner when Republican Gov. Phil Bryant chose her to temporarily succeed longtime Republican Sen. Thad Cochran, who retired in April amid health concerns. Tuesday's winner will serve the last two of Cochran's six-year term.

Hyde-Smith has campaigned as an unwavering supporter of Trump, who campaigned with her in Tupelo and Gulfport.

With the Mississippi election undecided, Republicans hold 52 of 100 Senate seats. Mississippi last elected a Democrat to the U.S. Senate in 1982. Espy is trying for the same kind of long-shot win fellow Democrat Doug Jones had nearly a year ago in neighboring Alabama, another conservative Deep South state where Republicans hold most statewide offices.

If white voters outnumber black voters 2-to-1 on Tuesday, Espy would have to win 30 percent or more of white votes, a tough task in a state with possibly the most racially polarized electorate in the country. But if black voters rise to 40 percent of the electorate and Espy wins 9 out of 10, he needs less than a quarter of white votes for victory.

Federal and state authorities are investigating seven nooses found hanging from trees outside the Mississippi Capitol on Monday, along with handwritten signs that referred to the Senate runoff and the state's history of lynching.

Hyde-Smith's campaign hammered Espy for his \$750,000 lobbying contract in 2011 with the Cocoa and Coffee Board of the Ivory Coast. She noted that the country's ex-president, Laurent Gbagbo, is being tried in the International Criminal Court for crimes against humanity. □

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Mexico accepts housing migrants, seeks US development aid

From Front

By **CHRISTOPHER SHERMAN**
and **E. EDUARDO CASTILLO**, Associated Press

TIJUANA, Mexico (AP) — As Mexico wrestles with what to do with more than 5,000 Central American migrants camped out at a sports complex in the border city of Tijuana, President-elect Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador's government signaled Tuesday that it would be willing to house the migrants on Mexican soil while they apply for asylum in the United States — a key demand of U.S. President Donald Trump.

Mexico's new foreign minister also called on the Trump administration to contribute to development projects to help create jobs in Central America to stem the flow of migrants from the impoverished region, suggesting an appropriate figure would start at \$20 billion. "We cannot determine at what pace people are interviewed" by U.S. officials as part of the asylum process, the incoming foreign relations secretary, Marcelo Ebrard, told a news conference in Mexico City. U.S. border inspectors are processing fewer than 100 asylum claims a day at Tijuana's main crossing to San Diego, creating a backlog of thousands.

"So, what do we have to do?" Ebrard asked. "Prepare ourselves to assume that a good part of them are going to be in this area of Mexico for the coming months."

"We have to support local authorities" in housing and feeding the migrants, he said, adding: "That is not a bilateral negotiation. That is something we have to do." Lopez Obrador, who won a crushing July 1 election victory and takes office on Saturday, built his political career on defending the poor. He now faces the difficult task of placating Trump on the migrant issue while upholding Mexico's longstanding position of demanding better treatment for migrants.

Ebrard told reporters Tuesday a key administra-

tion goal is securing a U.S. commitment to development projects in Honduras, where the vast majority of the migrants in the caravan come from, as well as neighboring Guatemala, El Salvador and elsewhere in Central America.

"What are we negotiating with the United States? We want them to participate in the project I just mentioned" to create jobs in Central America. Asked how much the U.S. should contribute, Ebrard suggested the figure should be at least \$20 billion.

"Mexico by itself is going to invest in our own territory during the next administration, more than \$20 billion, and so any serious effort regarding our brothers in El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, should be for a similar amount," Ebrard said. Ebrard's statements came as anxious Tijuana residents closed down a school next to a sports complex where thousands of migrants have been camped out for two weeks.

The move came after U.S. border agents fired tear gas into Mexico to turn back a group of migrants who had breached the border over the weekend. The incident prompted Mexican authorities to step up the police presence around the shelter.

Citing fears for their children's safety, the parents' association of the Gabriel Ramos Milan elementary school bought their own lock and chain and closed the school's gates. A sign said the school would remain closed until further notice.

Carmen Rodriguez said parents had been calling for authorities to do something since the migrants arrived, adding that her 9-year-old daughter wouldn't be returning to classes until they are gone. "We are asking that they be relocated," Rodriguez said, noting that some migrants had approached the school grounds to ask children for money and use the school's bathrooms. Some even smoked marijuana around its perimeter

walls, she said.

She said the parents worry about anti-migrant protesters converging on the sports complex again, as they did last week. "If they come here and there is a confrontation, we will be caught in the middle," she said. The migrants themselves were urgently exploring their options amid a growing feeling that they had little hope of making successful asylum bids in the United States or of crossing the border illegally. Most were dispirited after the U.S. agents fired tear gas on the group of migrants trying to cross into the U.S. on Sunday. They saw the clash and official response as hurting their chances of reaching the U.S. Mexico's National Mi-

gration Institute reported that 98 migrants were being deported after trying to breach the U.S. border. The country's Interior Department said about 500 people attempted to rush the border, while U.S. authorities put the number at 1,000.

There was a steady line Tuesday outside a tent housing the International Organization for Migration, where officials were offering assistance to those who wanted to return to their home countries.

Officials also reported more interest from migrants wanting to start the process of staying in Mexico. A job fair matching migrants with openings in Baja California saw a growing number of inquiries.

"What happened yesterday harms all of us," Oscar Leonel Mina, a 22-year-old father from San Salvador, said of Sunday's border clash.

Mina, his wife and their toddler daughter avoided the protest and were glad they did after hearing others recount what unfolded, he said.

The events made Mina rethink his family's plan of making it to the U.S. He says he's heard people talk of Rosarito, a beach town popular with U.S. tourists about a 40-minute drive south of Tijuana.

There "you can earn money and live well" if you're willing to work, he said. He set a goal of trying to move his family out of the sports stadium in another week. □

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Angry over cutbacks, Trump threatens to end subsidies to GM

By **JONATHAN LEMIRE and ZEKE MILLER, Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump tested the limits of his presidential authority and political muscle as he threatened Tuesday to cut off all federal subsidies to General Motors because of its planned massive cutbacks in the U.S. Trump unloaded on Twitter a day after GM announced it would shutter five plants and slash 14,000 jobs in North America. Many of the job cuts would affect the Midwest, the politically crucial region where the president promised a manufacturing rebirth. It was the latest example of the president's willingness to attempt to meddle in the affairs of private companies and to threaten the use of government power to try to force their business decisions. "Very disappointed with General Motors and their CEO, Mary Barra, for closing plants in Ohio, Michigan and Maryland" while sparing plants in Mexico & China, Trump tweeted,



In this Nov. 26, 2018, photo, President Donald Trump speaks at a rally in Biloxi, Miss.

adding: "The U.S. saved General Motors, and this is the THANKS we get!" Trump's tweets followed a short time after National Economic Council Director Larry Kudlow said the White House's reaction to the automaker's announcement was "a tremendous amount of disappointment, maybe even spilling over

into anger." Kudlow, who met with Barra on Monday, said Trump felt betrayed by GM.

"Look, we made this deal, we've worked with you along the way, we've done other things with mileage standards, for example, and other related regulations," Kudlow said, referencing the recently negotiated U.S.-Mexico-Canada trade agreement. "We've done this to help you and I think his disappointment is, it seems like that they kind of turned his back on him." The White House rebuke appears to fly in the face of long-held Republican opposition to picking winners and losers in the marketplace. A day earlier, Trump issued a vague threat to GM warning it to preserve a key plant in the presidential bellwether state of Ohio, where the company has marked its Lordstown plant for closure.

"That's Ohio, and you better get back in there soon," he said.

It's not clear precisely what

action against GM might be taken, or when, and there are questions about whether the president has the authority to act without congressional approval. Buyers of electric vehicles made by GM and other automakers get federal tax credits of up to \$7,500, helping to reduce the price as an incentive to get more of the zero-emissions vehicles on the road. But GM is on the cusp of reaching its subsidy limit.

White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said she did not have any additional information on the president's threat.

In a statement Tuesday afternoon, GM tried to appease the Trump administration while at the same time justifying the decisions it announced Monday. "We appreciate the actions this administration has taken on behalf of industry to improve the overall competitiveness of U.S. manufacturing," the statement said.

Many of the workers who

will lose jobs if the plants close could transfer to another GM factory where production is being increased, spokesman Patrick Morrissey said. For instance, GM plans to add hundreds of workers at its pickup truck assembly plant in Flint, Michigan, Morrissey said. Workers also will be added at an SUV factory in Arlington, Texas. But those expansions aren't enough to accommodate all of the roughly 3,300 U.S. factory workers who could lose their jobs.

GM said it has invested more than \$22 billion in U.S. operations since 2009, when it exited bankruptcy protection.

Trump has made direct negotiation with business leaders a centerpiece of his administration, including talks with defense contractor CEOs on bringing down prices on new systems, including the upcoming replacement to the aircraft that serves as Air Force One. He has never been shy about voicing his frustration with their decisions. But Trump's deal-making image is far from flawless. Three weeks after his election, Trump traveled to Indianapolis to announce a tax-incentive agreement partially reversing the closure of a Carrier factory, which was set to close, cutting about 1,400 production jobs.

Trump frequently criticized the closure plans during the 2016 campaign, and promised to prevent similar occurrences in the future. Under that deal, Carrier pledged to keep nearly 1,100 jobs in Indianapolis, including some 800 furnace production jobs it planned to cut with outsourcing. But about 550 jobs were still eliminated at the plant. □

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Pence, Kushner push for criminal justice reform

By **MARY CLARE JALONICK**,
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Vice President Mike Pence and President Donald Trump's son-in-law, Jared Kushner, visited Capitol Hill Tuesday as lawmakers from both parties push Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell to hold a vote on a rewrite of the nation's criminal justice sentencing laws.

A rare bipartisan coalition — including Trump, lawmakers from both parties, liberal advocacy groups and major GOP donors — is advocating passage of the criminal justice bill. The legislation would revise 1980s and '90s-era federal "tough on crime" laws by boosting rehabilitation efforts for federal prisoners and giving judges more discretion when sentencing nonviolent offenders, particularly for drug offenses. Supporters say the changes would make the nation's criminal justice system more fair, reduce overcrowding in federal prisons and save taxpayer dollars.

Senators announced a bipartisan agreement on the legislation earlier this



Vice President Mike Pence, joined at left by President Donald Trump's son-in-law, Jared Kushner, arrive at the Capitol in Washington, Tuesday, Nov. 27, 2018.

month, but McConnell has yet to say whether he will hold a vote on the bill. The No. 2 Republican in the Senate, Texas Sen. John Cornyn, said Tuesday that GOP leaders are counting votes to see if the legislation has enough support to pass. Pence and Kushner were expected to push McConnell on the legislation at a private luncheon

for Republican senators. The package has been a top priority for Kushner. The legislation has created a rare split between the White House and some of the most conservative Republican senators, who say the bill could reduce penalties for some serious drug offenders and let some violent offenders out of prison. Supporters of the measure,

including many Republican lawmakers, say those concerns are overblown. At a roundtable on the legislation in Mississippi on Monday, Trump said the bill would "enact reasonable sentencing reforms to ensure fairness while keeping dangerous criminals off the street," adding that the legislation would revitalize the criminal justice system

to be "tough on crime but also smart on crime."

Trump endorsed the legislation this month, giving it a huge boost. He said the bill is proof that "true bipartisanship is possible."

A bipartisan group of senators, including Senate Judiciary Chairman Chuck Grassley and Democratic Sen. Dick Durbin of Illinois, has been pushing for action on criminal justice reforms since former President Barack Obama's administration. But McConnell's reluctance to hold a floor vote has come as some members of his caucus have strongly objected to the bill. Arkansas Sen. Tom Cotton has led that group, arguing that sentences for drug offenders shouldn't be given an earlier release in the middle of a national drug epidemic.

Other Republicans have also expressed concerns. Florida Sen. Marco Rubio tweeted Monday that "Sen. Cotton makes a compelling argument against sentencing reform part of the bill before Senate." He said he'd discuss the legislation with other senators in the coming days. □

Judge to utility: Explain any role in deadly California fire

By **SUDHIN THANAWALA**, **Associated Press**

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A U.S. judge overseeing a criminal case against Pacific Gas & Electric Co. asked the utility Tuesday to explain any role it may have played in a massive wildfire that destroyed a Northern California town and killed nearly 90 people.

Judge William Alsup in San Francisco directed PG&E in a court filing to respond to a series of questions about power line safety and wildfires. He is overseeing a jury verdict and sentence against PG&E after a natural gas pipeline explosion killed eight people and destroyed 38 homes in the San Francisco Bay Area eight years ago.

Investigators have not determined the cause of the



In this Friday, Nov. 9, 2018 file photo, Pacific Gas & Electric crews work to restore power lines in Paradise, Calif. A U.S. judge overseeing a criminal case against Pacific Gas & Electric Co. asked the utility Tuesday, Nov. 27, 2018.

wildfire that began Nov. 8 and tore through the town of Paradise, destroying nearly 14,000 homes and killing at least 88 people. Speculation, however, has centered on PG&E,

which reported an outage around the time and place the fire ignited. Another transmission line also malfunctioned a short time later, possibly sparking a second fire.

In Tuesday's filing, Alsup said he wants to know whether any requirements in the sentence handed down last year for the 2010 pipeline blast in San Bruno "might be implicated" if the reckless operation or maintenance of PG&E power lines ignited a wildfire. He noted that the sentence required PG&E not to engage in any additional crimes. Another judge had ordered the utility to pay a \$3 million fine and run television commercials publicizing its pipeline safety convictions. He also ordered an independent monitor to oversee the safety of its gas pipeline system and put the company on probation for five years.

PG&E spokeswoman Erin Garvey said the utility was aware of Alsup's notice

and was reviewing it.

"We continue to focus on assessing infrastructure, safely restoring power where possible and helping our customers recover and rebuild," she said.

Alsup also asked what requirements of the sentence might be affected by any "inaccurate, slow, or failed reporting of information about any wildfire by PG&E" and what steps the independent monitor has taken to improve the utility's safety and reporting on power lines and wildfires.

The judge asked for "an accurate and complete statement of the role, if any," that PG&E played in "causing and reporting" the Northern California fire and all other wildfires in California since its sentencing. □

Report: Manafort met with Julian Assange ahead of 2016 leaks

By Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A British newspaper alleges that Paul Manafort secretly met WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange at the Ecuadorean Embassy in London within days or weeks of being brought aboard Donald Trump's presidential campaign. Lawyers for Assange and Manafort denounced the report as false.

If confirmed, the report Tuesday would suggest a direct connection between the Trump campaign and WikiLeaks, which released tens of thousands of emails stolen by Russian spies during the 2016 election. The campaign seized on the emails to undermine Trump's rival, Hillary Clinton. The Guardian, which did not identify the sources for its reporting, said that Manafort met with Assange "around March 2016" — the same month that Russian hackers began their all-out effort to steal emails from the Clinton campaign.

In a statement, Manafort called the story "totally false and deliberately libelous" and said he was con-



In this May 23, 2018, file photo, Paul Manafort, President Donald Trump's former campaign chairman, leaves the Federal District Court after a hearing, in Washington.

sidering his legal options against the Guardian.

"I have never met Julian Assange or anyone connected to him," Manafort said. "I have never been contacted by anyone connected to WikiLeaks, either directly or indirectly. I have never reached out to Assange or WikiLeaks on any

matter."

Assange's Ecuadorean lawyer, Carlos Poveda, said the Guardian report was false.

And WikiLeaks said on Twitter that it was "willing to bet the Guardian a million dollars and its editor's head that Manafort never met Assange." It later tweeted

refuge there to avoid being extradited to Sweden over sex crime allegations. The Guardian said Manafort returned there in 2015 and 2016 and said its sources had "tentatively dated" the final visit to March. The newspaper added that Manafort's visit was not entered into the embassy's log book and cited a source as saying Manafort left after 40 minutes.

There was no detail on what might have been discussed.

The Trump campaign announced Manafort's hire on March 29, 2016, and he served as the convention manager tasked with lining up delegates for the Republican National Convention. He was promoted to campaign chairman in May 2016. An AP investigation into Russian hacking shows that government-aligned cyberspies began an aggressive effort to penetrate the Clinton campaign's email accounts on March 10, 2016. □

Associated Press.

that Assange had instructed his lawyers to sue the Guardian for libel.

The Guardian cited two unidentified sources as saying Manafort first met Assange at the embassy in 2013, a year after Assange took

NY Gov. Cuomo on 2020 presidential run: 'I am ruling it out'

By DAVID KLEPPER, Associated Press

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo again dismissed talk that he will run for president, saying Tuesday that he is focused on leading the nation's fourth-largest state and not preparing a run for the White House in 2020.

"I am ruling it out," he said when asked about a possible presidential run during an interview on New York City public radio. "I ran for governor. I have a full plate. I have many projects. I'm going to be here doing the job of governor." The Democrat won a third term earlier this month and has repeatedly said he isn't planning to run for the White House in 2020. Before the election he used unusually stark terms when asked about whether he would run or commit to serving a

full third term.

"The only caveat," Cuomo said, "is if God strikes me dead. Otherwise, I will serve four years as governor of the state of New York."

Cuomo's repeated denials haven't ended the speculation. The Associated Press reported last week that Cuomo has contacted some Democrats in Iowa, home to the influential Iowa Caucus.

Cuomo dismissed the report as false.

The governor will travel to Washington on Wednesday for a meeting with Republican President Donald Trump to discuss funding for a long-stalled proposal to build a new rail tunnel under the Hudson River.

During the interview Tuesday, the governor talked about what he'd like to see from a Democratic nominee. □

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Trial witness describes El Chapo's lavish lifestyle

By **TOM HAYS**, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Mexican drug lord Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman was so rich, he had a private zoo where big cats roamed. So rich, he bought a \$10 million beach house. And so rich, he traveled to Switzerland for an anti-aging treatment. Guzman's excesses were detailed at his U.S. trial on Tuesday by former cartel crony-turned-government witness Miguel Angel Martinez, who told jurors that a "cocaine boom" in the early 1990s fueled the lavish spending spree.

"He had houses at every single beach," said Martinez, formerly a close friend and top assistant. "He had ranches in every single state."

Martinez described how the Sinaloa cartel was smuggling tons of cocaine into the United States — through tunnels dug under the border, in tanker trucks with secret compartments, even in fake chili pepper cans. What came back in



In this Jan. 19, 2017, file photo, provided by U.S. law enforcement, authorities escort Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman, center, from a plane to a waiting caravan of SUVs at Long Island MacArthur Airport, in Ronkonkoma, N.Y.

the other direction, he said, was tens of millions of dollars in cash.

Much of it ended up in Tijuana, where Guzman would send his three private jets each month to pick it up, Martinez said. On average, each plane would carry up

to \$10 million, he said. The cartel used stash houses to hide much of the cash, Martinez said. Samsonite suitcases stuffed with U.S. currency also were taken to Mexican banks, where workers were bribed to exchange it for pesos, no

questions asked, he said. Guzman also used his jets to fly around the Mexico with armed bodyguards to visit all his homes, including an Acapulco beach house featuring the zoo with a "little train" used to ride around and see li-

ons, tigers and panthers, he said. There also was a yacht docked there called "Chapito," he said.

Among his other expenses were "four to five" women in Guzman's life, Martinez said with the defendant's wife listening from the gallery. "We had to pay them all," he said.

Over time, the kingpin who grew up in poverty developed a taste for world travel, he said. His entourage visited Macau to gamble and Switzerland so he could get a "cellular youth treatment," he said.

The good times were spoiled by a bloody turf war with a rival cartel that grew so heated it sent a team of hit men to an airport in Guadalajara to try to take out Guzman, Martinez said. They instead killed a Roman Catholic cardinal, outraging the Mexican public enough to touch off a massive manhunt for Guzman, who was arrested before carrying out a plan to hide out in El Salvador, he said. □

US sued for \$60 million after infant in detention later died

By **NOMAAN MERCHANT**, Associated Press

HOUSTON (AP) — The mother of a toddler who died weeks after being released from the nation's largest family detention center filed a legal claim seeking \$60 million from the U.S. government for the child's death.

Attorneys for Yazmin Juarez submitted the claim against multiple agencies Tuesday. Juarez's 1-year-old daughter, Mariee, died in May.

Juarez's lawyers said Mariee developed a respiratory illness while she and her mother were detained at the South Texas Family Residential Center in Dilley, Texas. They accused U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement of releasing the pair while Mariee was still sick.

The girl died six weeks later in Philadelphia. Washington-based law firm Arnold & Porter said it will file a lawsuit if the gov-

ernment doesn't settle its claim. R. Stanton Jones, a lawyer at the firm, said the government has six months to respond before his firm can file suit.

"Having made the decision to jail small children, the U.S. government is responsible to provide living conditions that are safe, sanitary and appropriate," Jones said. A spokesman for U.S. Customs and Border Protection said the agency wouldn't comment on pending liti-

gation. Other agencies didn't immediately respond to messages.

Jones has also submitted a \$40 million claim against the city of Eloy, Arizona, which officially operated the Dilley detention facility under a "pass-through" agreement with ICE and the private prison company CoreCivic. ICE and CoreCivic replaced its agreement with Eloy in September with an arrangement made with the city of Dilley.

Advocates have long complained that medical care in Dilley is substandard and that detaining families damages their mental health. ICE has defended the care it provides at Dilley, saying detainees have access to medical professionals. Dilley is now being used to detain mothers and children, some of whom were reunited in detention after being separated earlier this year under Trump administration policy. □



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France's Macron tries to ease popular anger over gas prices

By SYLVIE CORBET
Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — French President Emmanuel Macron tried to defuse protests over rising fuel taxes by explaining on Tuesday his plans to wean the country off fossil fuels and promising to shift out of cheap nuclear energy more slowly.

His effort to win over protesters posing a challenge fell short. One of two representatives of the grassroots protest movement who met Tuesday night with the environment minister called for a new demonstration this Saturday on Paris' Champs-Elysees. Last Saturday's protest on the capital's main avenue degenerated into violence with police resorting to tear gas and water cannons to regain control.



French President Emmanuel Macron delivers a speech after attending a meeting dubbed 'The presentation of the strategy for ecology transition', at the Elysee Palace in Paris, Tuesday, Nov. 27 2018.

Associated Press

Macron stuck to small tax increases on gasoline and fuel that had prompted popular anger. But he proposed a mechanism to regularly review the tax

when global oil prices are rising.

"I have a deep understanding of the expectations and frustrations, the resentment of citizens ...

Our duty is to bring a response," Macron said in a speech at the presidential palace.

Macron insisted he will show "no weakness" toward troublemakers who used the protests to damage businesses and clash with police — including in the heart of Paris, on the famous Champs-Elysees avenue.

"I don't confuse thugs with fellow citizens who want to send out a message. I feel understanding for these fellow citizens but I will not indulge those who want destruction and disorder," he said.

In a bid to calm protesters in France, Macron also proposed a three-month consultation with associations and activist groups, including the so-called "yel-

low jackets" who have led protests, about how best to handle the rising energy costs.

The environment minister met with two representatives of protesters on the president's orders.

"There is a very strong need to be heard," and "strong anger," Francois de Rugy said after the Tuesday night meeting with two "yellow jackets," who presented him with two pages of demands that, he said, "go way beyond" high fuel prices and Macron's plan for a transition away from fossil fuels.

The protests since Nov. 17 triggered by hikes in diesel fuel taxes quickly grew to cover a wide array of issues including buying power and claims that the working class pays for the elite. □



In this Sept. 9, 2015 file photo, Maldives former president currently serving prison time Mohamed Nasheed, left, prepares to leave on a speedboat, apparently headed to an island jail after an appearance in court in Male, Maldives.

Associated Press

Maldives court annuls conviction of former president

Associated Press

MALE, Maldives (AP) — The Maldives' top court has annulled a conviction for the country's former president on terror charges that carried a 13-year prison sentence.

The Supreme Court on Monday set aside Mohamed Nasheed's conviction, saying there were no grounds for him to be charged under the terrorism law and that the state had failed to produce sufficient evidence.

Nasheed, who became Maldives' first democratically elected president in

2008, was sentenced to prison in 2015 for ordering the detention of a top judge when he was president in 2012.

The court said at the time that the judge's arrest amounted to abduction. After one year in prison, Nasheed traveled to Britain for medical treatment and took asylum there.

He returned home after strongman Yameen Abdul Gayoom lost a presidential election in September.

Nasheed was elected president in 2008, when the Maldives held its first multi-party presidential election,

ending decades of autocratic rule.

He resigned in 2012 amid public protests over the judge's detention.

He lost the 2013 election to Yameen, who rolled back many of the democratic gains.

Yameen jailed almost all of his political rivals, including Nasheed, after rushed trials that were criticized for a lack of due process.

Unable to contest the 2018 presidential election because of his jail sentence, Nasheed backed Ibrahim Mohamed Solih, who won the election. □

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Saudi crown prince visits Tunisia amid Khashoggi protests

By **BOUAZZA BEN BOUAZZA**
Associated Press

TUNIS, Tunisia (AP) — Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman received a personal welcome Tuesday from Tunisia's president who greeted his guest at the airport after two days of protests in the capital that reflected international concern about the killing of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi.

Tunisian President Beji Caid Essebsi, who turns 92 on Thursday, honored the prince with a rare display of high protocol from a salute to the flags to the sound of the national anthems before the two reviewed troops.

They then headed to the presidential palace in Carthage, outside Tunis, for closed-door talks, the only scheduled activity during the brief visit by the prince, who was on a tour of Arab countries before heading to the Group of 20 summit in Argentina.

The official welcome contrasted with hostile protests by non-governmental representatives and leftist



Tunisian President Beji Caid Essebsi, right, shakes hands with Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman upon his arrival at the presidential palace in Carthage near Tunis, Tunisia, Tuesday, Nov. 27, 2018.

political parties with more than 200 protesters on Tuesday to cries of "Tunisia is not for sale." Some burned a Saudi Arabian flag and others brandished saws. There was no visible hostility during visits to a handful of other countries.

A banner showing a doc-

tored image of the prince holding a bone saw hung on the headquarters of the Tunisian journalists union. Turkish officials say Khashoggi's body was dismembered in the Saudi Embassy in Istanbul last month. Saudi authorities have blamed the killing on lower-

ranking officials who they say exceeded their authority.

A day earlier, about 200 protesters gathered in the same spot to say the crown prince wasn't welcome in this North African nation.

A youth activist group that criticizes Saudi limits on

women's rights was among those demonstrating Tuesday. "No to Repression of Freedom of Expression" read one sign.

"We're here to say no, 1,000 times no to the visit by the criminal bin Salman," said protester Said Arous.

Prince Mohammed is not exposed to this kind of protest back home, where he's engaged in a crackdown targeting business leaders, human rights activists and other royals.

Traveling abroad for the first time since the killing, the crown prince is visiting Arab allies before heading to a Group of 20 summit in Argentina this week, where he may face questions about the gruesome slaying.

On his tour's first stop, in the United Arab Emirates, the Saudi prince was embraced on the tarmac by Abu Dhabi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Zayed, a close ally.

He also went to neighboring Bahrain, an island nation that functions as a vassal state to Saudi Arabia and to Egypt. □



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Coal mining's future divides Poles ahead of climate talks

By **MONIKA SCISLOWSKA**

Associated Press

KATOWICE, Poland (AP) —

Electronics salesman Leszek Jaworowski says he can't discuss Poland's coal mining with his father. They end up at loggerheads, just like many families in the southern mining region of Silesia. Unlike his father Edward, Jaworowski defied the area's centuries-old tradition and didn't become a miner. The 42-year-old believes it's time for Poland, heavily dependent on coal, to move away from the dangerous, costly and polluting industry. But to those working in the mines, coal lies at the very core of Silesia's identity, despite the huge safety and health hazards that it brings.

"Coal mines should be shut, Silesia doesn't need them anymore," said Jaworowski Jr. "They're destroying the region, the air and the people. The heaps of money pumped into maintaining them should be better used for creating jobs in innovative and clean industries like IT."

Not everyone thinks that way.

Tomasz Mlynarczyk, 43, who operates heavy extraction machinery at the Wujek mine in Katowice, thinks coal is a "treasure."

"If there was no coal there would be no jobs," he said. "If we close the mines, then everything around goes bankrupt — shops and other firms that produce and deliver goods to the mines." Perhaps surprisingly, Poland has chosen to host this year's global climate summit in Silesia's main city, Katowice.

The two-week conference starting Dec. 2 will see governments, scientists and campaigners from around the world haggle over how to implement the Paris climate accord. The 2015 agreement set a goal of keeping global warming well below 2 degrees Celsius (3.6 degrees Fahrenheit), ideally no more than 1.5 C, an effort that experts say will require sharp cuts in carbon emissions that can only be achieved by end-



A Greenpeace activist looks at a chimney in the Belchatow power plant, the world's largest lignite-fired power station, in Belchatow, Poland, Tuesday, Nov. 27, 2018.

Associated Press

ing coal-fired power plants in the coming decades.

To spur the negotiators, a group of Greenpeace activists climbed on Tuesday a 180-meter (590-foot) smokestack at Europe's largest lignite power plant in Belchatow, central Poland, to stress the harmful effects that burning coal has and the pressing need to phase out the fossil fuel. Global pressure is also on other coal-burning countries like China, India, Australia, Germany, Colombia and the United States, where President Donald Trump says he is opting out of the Paris accord to avoid curbing industry.

The Polish government argues that Katowice is a showcase for how a colliery center can be transformed into a modern, environment-friendly city.

The venue is a closed mine turned into a museum and culture center. But despite the creation of a green technology hub and numerous new parks in recent years, coal's grip on Katowice and its surroundings remains firm — as evidenced by the smog that envelops the region for much of the year.

The mining industry has

long been a source of pride and employment for generations of Silesians. For decades, its rich seams of hard, black coal were used to heat homes and provide electricity across Poland.

At the end of the communist era almost 30 years ago, some 400,000 people were employed in 70 collieries. Miners earned twice the national average, and their feast day of Catholic St. Barbara, known as "Barborka," was renowned across the country.

Critics argue that coal's mythical image was maintained in part by covering up deadly accidents and downplaying the environmental damage caused by mining. Whole neighborhoods in some towns such as Bytom have been abandoned.

From 1990, Poland's transition to a market economy forced the closure of heavily subsidized, unprofitable mines. Ensuing layoffs were met with violent protests by miners that prompted costly government programs that included payments for miners retiring early or moving into other fields, and financial incentives to attract foreign manufacturing firms such as German

Opel carmaker.

Today, about 30 mines provide jobs to some 83,000 people. Despite the retrenchment, Poland is Europe's largest source of coal. In 2016, some 70 million tons of coal were produced, or 70 percent of the European Union's output, according to the Energy Ministry.

The cutbacks though have helped Poland slash its carbon emissions by 30 percent — much more than the 20 percent cut the EU promised to achieve by the year 2020.

But, just like neighboring Germany, Poland cannot do without coal. Some 80 percent of Poland's energy still comes from coal.

"We, as the government want to have Polish coal for the Polish energy system," said Deputy Energy Minister Grzegorz Tobiszowski, who is in charge of restructuring of the coal mining.

Consecutive governments have been assuring miners in Silesia, home to some 4 million people, that coal will remain an important energy source for decades to come.

In 2040, the proportion of Poland's energy coming from coal should decrease

to 50 percent, with the rest coming from renewable and nuclear sources, Tobiszowski said.

While the government concedes that coal's role will diminish over time, the country's rollout of renewables — which provides about 15 percent of electricity — has stalled, in part due to unfavorable weather conditions, in part due to legislation that protects traditional, state-owned energy companies.

"It is not Poland's fault that we have such rich deposits of fuels and the point is to use them in the most efficient way and to have them in our energy mix and to work on reducing the pollutions, the emissions," said Michal Kurtyka, a senior official at Poland's environment ministry who will chair the climate talks in Katowice.

To reduce harmful emissions, some 7.2 billion zlotys (\$1.9 billion) are to be invested through 2022 into modern, cleaner coal technologies.

Like in the Jaworowski family, opinions on the future of coal are split largely along generational lines.

To younger Poles, the prospect of going deeper and deeper underground holds little relish. The industry has had to hire workers from neighboring Ukraine.

Patryk Bialas, a hi-tech engineer and environmental activist, plans to drive home that message during the upcoming climate conference.

"The move away from coal can be done faster than it is being done, but there needs to be a political will," Bialas said. "We just need to sit down and discuss the future because coal is finished." □



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South Korea apologizes over vagrants' detention, forced work

By KIM TONG-HYUNG

Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)

— South Korea's top public prosecutor apologized Tuesday over what he described as a botched investigation into the enslavement and mistreatment of thousands of people at a vagrants' facility in the 1970s and 1980s nearly three decades after its owner was acquitted of serious charges.

The remarks by Prosecutor General Moon Moo-il were the government's first formal expression of remorse over one of the worst human rights atrocities in modern South Korea. They add pressure for parliament to pass legislation to start a deeper inquiry into what happened at the now-closed Brothers Home, whose owner was exonerated from serious charges amid an obvious cover-up orchestrated at the highest levels of government.

"The past government created a directive that had no base in laws and used state power to detain citizens at the Brothers Home confinement facility with the disguised purpose of protecting them; more than that (inmates) were subjected to forced labor, while experiencing brutal violence and other harsh violations of their human rights," Moon said, stopping several times during his statement while appearing to hold back tears.

"I accept with a heavy heart the results of our committee (on past cases) that the prosecution then caved into pressure from



South Korea's Prosecutor General Moon Moo-il bows in apology in Seoul, South Korea, Tuesday, Nov. 27, 2018.

above and closed its investigation prematurely.

Even on the charges that were included in the indictment, the defendants weren't properly punished during the trials. This was a process that cannot be described as democracy."

Moon delivered his apology in a meeting with about a dozen former inmates, most of whom were children when they were snatched off the street by police and city officials and locked up at Brothers Home.

They spoke of their experiences at the facility, including slave labor and near-daily assaults, how their sudden disappearance ruined their families, and how they have struggled with

their lives since.

"I have no friends because I couldn't go to school," said Park Sun-yi, who spent more than five years at Brothers Home after being snatched by police at the age of 9.

"We have no families to go to at Chuseok," she said, referring to the Korean Thanksgiving.

No one has been held accountable for hundreds of deaths, rapes and beatings at Brothers Home that were documented by an Associated Press report in 2016.

The AP report was based on hundreds of exclusive documents and dozens of interviews with officials and former detainees, which showed that the abuse at Brothers Home was much

more vicious and widespread than previously known.

Military dictators in the 1960s to 1980s ordered roundups to beautify the streets, sending thousands of homeless and disabled people and children to facilities where they were detained and forced to work. The drive intensified as South Korea began preparing to bid for and host the 1988 Summer Olympics. Brothers Home, a mountainside compound in the southern city of Busan, was the largest of these facilities and had around 4,000 inmates when its horrors were exposed in early 1987.

Kim Yong Won, the former prosecutor who exposed Brothers Home, told AP

that high-ranking officials blocked his investigation under direction from the office of military strongman Chun Doo-hwan who feared of an embarrassing international incident on the eve of the Olympics.

Death tallies compiled by the facility claimed 513 people died between 1975 and 1986, but the real toll was almost certainly higher. Kim's investigation records include transcripts of interviews of multiple inmates who said officials refused to send people to hospitals until they were nearly dead for fear of escape.

Kim, now a lawyer, wasn't able to indict Brothers Home owner Park In-keun or anyone else for widespread abuses at the facility and was left to pursue much narrower charges linked to embezzlement and construction law violations and confinement at a construction site in Ulsan where inmates worked.

"The prosecutor general's apology is an important step toward fully revealing the truth of Brothers Home and compensating the surviving victims," Kim said.

Former Brothers Home inmates have received no compensation.

They have been calling for a new investigation to establish the government's responsibility more clearly and create a base for compensation.

Seoul's previous conservative government had refused to revisit the case, saying that the evidence was too old and expressing concerns over financial compensation. □



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Scientists warn new Brazil president may smother rainforest

CHRISTINA LARSON
MAURICIO SAVARESE
Associated Press

SAO PAULO (AP) — Scientists warn that Brazil's president-elect could push the Amazon rainforest past its tipping point — with severe consequences for global climate and rainfall.

Jair Bolsonaro, who takes office Jan. 1, claims a mandate to convert land for cattle pastures and soybean farms, calling Brazil's rainforest protections an economic obstacle.

Brazil contains about 60 percent of the Amazon rainforest, and scientists are worried.

It's nearly impossible to overstate the importance of the Amazon rainforest to the planet's living systems, said Carlos Nobre, a climate scientist at the University of Sao Paulo.

Each tree stores carbon absorbed from the atmosphere. The Amazon takes in as much as 2 billion tons of carbon dioxide a year and releases 20 percent of the planet's oxygen, earning it the nickname "the lungs of the planet."

It's also a global weather-maker.

Stretching 10 times the size of Texas, the Amazon is the world's largest rainforest. Billions of trees suck up water through deep roots and bring it up to their leaves, which release water vapor that forms a thick mist over the rainforest canopy.

This mist ascends into clouds and eventually becomes rainfall — a cycle that shapes seasons in South America and far beyond.

By one estimate, the Amazon creates 30 to 50 percent of its own rainfall.

Now the integrity of all of

them impediments to economic growth. "All these reserves cause problems to development," he told sup-

cess story. Between 2004 and 2014, stricter enforcement of laws to safeguard the rainforest — aided by

and underbrush cut down are simply burned, directly releasing carbon dioxide, said Artaxo.

"In the Brazilian Amazon, far and away the largest source of deforestation is industrial agriculture and cattle ranching," said Emilio Bruna, an ecologist at the University of Florida in Gainesville.

Now observers are parsing Bolsonaro's campaign statements and positions as a congressman to anticipate what's next for the Amazon.

Bolsonaro — who some call "tropical Trump" because of some similarities to U.S. President Donald Trump — is a former army captain with a knack for channeling outrage and generating headlines. As a federal congressman for 27 years, he led legislative campaigns to unravel land protections for indigenous people and to promote agribusiness.

He also made derogatory comments about minorities, women, and LGBT people.

Much of his support comes from business and farming interests.

"These farmers are not invaders, they are producers," said congressman and senator-elect Luiz Carlos Heinze, a farmer and close ally of Bolsonaro. He blamed past "leftist administrations" for promoting indigenous rights at the expense of farmers and ranchers.

"Brazil will be the biggest farming nation on Earth during Bolsonaro's years," said Heinze. □



In this March 10, 2018 photo released by Ibama, the Brazilian Environmental and Renewable Natural Resources Institute, agents from Ibama measure illegally cut timber from Cachoeira Seca indigenous land in Para state in Brazil's Amazon basin.

Associated Press

three functions — as a carbon sink, the Earth's lungs, and a rainmaker — hangs in the balance.

On Oct. 28, Brazilians elected Bolsonaro, a far-right candidate who channeled outrage at the corruption scandals of the former government and support from agribusiness groups. His election came weeks before an international summit in December where leaders will discuss how to curb climate change.

On the campaign trail, Bolsonaro promised to loosen protections for areas of the Brazilian Amazon designated as indigenous lands and nature reserves, calling

porters.

He has also repeatedly talked about gutting the power of the environmental ministry to enforce existing green laws.

"If Bolsonaro keeps his campaign promises, deforestation of the Amazon will probably increase quickly — and the effects will be felt everywhere on the planet," said Paulo Artaxo, a professor of environmental physics at the University of Sao Paulo.

Bolsonaro's transition team did not respond to an interview request from the Associated Press.

Brazil was once seen as a global environmental suc-

cess story. Between 2004 and 2014, stricter enforcement of laws to safeguard the rainforest — aided by regular satellite monitoring and protections for lands designated reserves for indigenous peoples — sharply curbed the rate of deforestation, which peaked in the early 2000s at about 9,650 square miles a year (25,000 square kilometers). After a political crisis engulfed Brazil, leading to the 2016 impeachment of president Dilma Rousseff, enforcement faltered. Ranchers and farmers began to convert more rainforest to pastureland and cropland. Between 2014 and 2017, annual deforestation doubled to about 3,090 square miles (8,000 square kilometers). Most often, the trees

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Kayla Rojas is Project Coordinator at the Heart-Centered Leadership Foundation: “We are a foundation focusing on youth between 14 and 25, empowering them by offering trainings, programs, seminars. Our mission is to offer young people the tools that can foster their personal development and enable them to be sustainable.” The foundation believes in three R’s when it comes to sustainability: Responsible, Respectful and Resilient. “Especially resilient as we work from the inside out and give them the tools to stand firmly in their shoes and that tomorrow –regardless of any obstacle they may confront in life- they can continue on without struggling or completely giving up. We strongly believe in building strength from the inside out.”

Lot of the time you can look strong from the outside while from the inside you face sadness, traumas and struggle. There are several risk factors for young people: Individual factors like a lack of motivation and relationship with peers. Then you have the family factor; how involved are parents with the school, the education level of the family and the social-economic situation at home. The last one is the pull-push factor, the school climate, the culture, the language and the environment. Kayla: “For example: Does the private situation prevent the child from going to school? We had a teenager who actually had to work to provide for his family, sacrificing school for an income at home. There is where we could be of help and support and guide.” She explains that it is not a problems or an embarrassment



to reach out. “We see that you have the potential but you are not unleashing it. That’s how we try to turn it around.”

Who Am I

“Our signature program is called ‘The Power Within Me’ and focuses on personal development and most of all self-esteem. Topics are ‘How do you communicate’, ‘team work’, ‘what are your norms and values’, ‘answering the question Who Am I’. When you know that you build yourselves stronger and resistant against peer pressure or bullying. It is most about creating awareness and consciousness.” Another training is ‘The Sky Is The Limit’ concentrating on visualization and goal setting. You could look at it as a guidance and support for young people.



Their Future

Besides Kayla as the Project Coordinator, the foundation is run by the director and volunteers. The director is a Facilitator of the trainings and she has a lot of experience in this field. She worked and still does with the Educare Foundation, they are based in Los Angeles and they offer three days seminars called ACE, standing for Achievement and Commitment to Excellence. “We carry out that program here, it is intense but has very good satisfaction rates. We did it in 2012 for 100 youth leaders in Aruba, like members of Parlamento Hubenil, Circle K and so on. From 2014 to 2017 it was repeated under the program ‘Their Future, Our Duty’, focusing on drop-out prevention for underprivileged youngsters. The program was an initiative from Cooperating Funds of The Netherlands and they carried it out within the Caribbean part of the Dutch Kingdom. We as foundation operated for Aruba. Under that umbrella we gave the ACE program. The absenteeism dropped and it really was affective.”

We Take Care

There is a group of youngsters that always look for the foundation and have become volunteer leaders themselves. Kayla: “They feel it works for them. We also recruit youth leaders in schools and we recently started a youth platform called Aruba Youth Impact where youngsters can share their ideas and concerns and actually act upon them. That is how we get this group more involved. It is a mix of youngsters of all levels, with all kind of problems or none at all. They just feel comfortable with us as we are a family here. We take care of them.”

Future Plans

“Young people are walking around with a lot of baggage and sometimes parents and teachers do their best but it is not enough. We want to continue working with underprivileged youngsters in individual and group sessions and strengthening them. And we have our youth platform that is establishing firmly, organizing also the Impact Café that is based on the World Café model where you bring youngsters together and discuss topics”, says Kayla. □

If you would like to visit the foundation, please call + (297) 584 1211 and ask for Kayla Rojas. For more information visit their Facebook: Heart-Centered Leadership Foundation. Thank You!

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Honoring of Katelyn Kim at the Marriott Surf Club

ORANJESTAD — Recently, Jenny Boekhoudt of Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure to honor a Loyal and Friendly visitor of Aruba as Distinguished Visitor. The symbolic honorary title is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism, Transportation, as a token of appreciation to the guests who visit Aruba between 10-20 and more consecutive years.

The honoree is Katelyn Kim from New York. Kim stated that she loves the island

very much specially for the nice sandy beaches, delicious variety of food, perfect weather and the wonderful chocolate milkshake she can't find anywhere else.

Boekhoudt together with representatives of the Marriott Surf Club presented the certificate to the honoree and handed over some presents to her and thanked her for choosing Aruba as their vacation destination and as her home away from home for so many years. □



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Bohemian Restaurant: Check In Please



PALM BEACH — Avant-garde from France, non-conformist in style and ethnic in cuisine. That is what the new kid in town is about and TONIGHT they even top the eclectic vibe with live Flamenco singer Angela Baidez. Bohemian Restaurant is a different swing, European flair and outside dining, a place from the same owner as the for years already successful Casa Tua restaurants. They know their dance well, but this time they lift it to a different level.



From 8 PM tonight Spanish Paella and much more is on the menu, of course with pairing wines. The beautiful garden of Bohemian will be filled with lights, good food and live music in an intimate, hip and offbeat ambiance. Catchy Rumba Gitana and dramatic Spanish ballads combine with the passionately prepared dishes to tickle your taste buds to the max. Bo-

hemian Restaurant is located on the corner of Barceló Resort in the center of the hi-rise frenzy.

Free Parking available at the parking lot in front of Barceló Resort.

Make your reservations through their website: <https://bohemiannaruba.com>. Call them at 00 297 280 8448. Facebook: Bohemian. □

Art Gallery and Museum 'Etnia Nativa'

By Andreina Morillo

NOORD – The roots of Aruba come from an ethnic group that used to live on the island before it was discovered by the Spaniards in 1499. History tells us that they seemed to be the 'Caiquetios' Indians from the Arawak tribe, originally from what is known nowadays as Venezuela. They had their own way of surviving using the simplest techniques and methods. They used stone artifacts, fishing and all that nature had to offer in order to make a living. Art gallery and Museum 'Etnia Nativa' honours the original culture of Aruba and likewise the Indians, the owner uses whatever is found in nature to construct this amazing, inspiring place.

Anthony Croes is born and raised in Aruba and the owner of Etnia Nativa. This is a gallery and museum consisting of native art of Aruba. Croes together with his wife created and exhibits all pieces of disposed and



recycled materials and converted these into art pieces, inspired by the pre-historic culture of Aruba.

Croes explains that since he was young he always felt full of creativity and he had many ideas on how to use recycled materials. At his house he keeps plants pertaining to the flora of Aruba, paintings, ceramic designs, musical

instruments, metal lamps, pieces made out of wood, all these objects is what led him and his wife to convert their house into an museum. Everything in the museum has been recycled, fixed and transformed in a certain way. Croes is not an plastic artists. He's studied electrician and logistic. He also studied archeology, administration and metal-

lurgical in the US which he nows combine with his current function as member of the Chamber of Commerce of Aruba.

Native American Culture

The couple promotes and defends the rights, culture and art of the Native Americans, especially focusing on the native culture of Aruba. "I have always

been interested in science and art, culture and everything that lies behind the shield and flag which is the identity of a country. The objects made at my home transmit the love for life", says Croes.

The museum is open for visitors, everyone who is interested in learning more about the culture of Aruba. You will get a personal tour which is an educative experience and Croes his enthusiasm surely is contagious! With this the friendly couple wish to extend the knowledge of the guests who choose Aruba as destination and show them that this island has more to offer than just beaches. Croes: "As Arubian you have to educate yourself and your country. Everyone shows their love for it on their own way but at the end we all share the same love for this island."

For more information (Facebook Etnia Nativa) or reservation call at 592-2702 or send an email at etnianaativao3@gmail.com. □



Today's
Happening



A weekly calendar with a selection of what's going on in Aruba



Wednesday 28

Christmas Charity Concert

- Foundation Against Drugs Aruba (F.A.D.A.) is holding its first Christmas Charity Concert to collect funds for their future campaigns. Presentations by local artists and musical groups all in Christmas ambience aboard the Freewinds Cruise Ship.
- From 7:30 PM till 10 PM
- Freewinds Cruise Ship, Cruise Terminal
- Facebook FADA Aruba



Thursday 29

Book presentation- Caya di Monche

- The book written by Benjamin Romero is based on the life of linguist Ramon (Monche) Todd Dandare. The book portrays his struggles and difficulties but with purpose, achievements and honoring he managed to make it through. Dandare wants to leave an exceptional experience and teachings for our youth. This night you will be able to meet the author Benjamin Romero and also Mr. Dandare personally.
- From 7:30 PM till 9:30 PM
- National Library of Aruba, Oranjestad
- Facebook Biblioteca Nacional Aruba

Friday 30

Pure Madness- KES the Band Live

- Legends School of Carnival Aruba in collaboration with Soca Society presents: PURE MADNESS KES The Band LIVE!
- Inspired by their native melting pot nation of Trinidad and Tobago, KES fuses together a unique blend of Soca, Calypso, Reggae and Pop to bring the sounds of the Caribbean to the world stage.
- From 9 PM till 2 AM
- Citgo Main Gate, San Nicolas
- Facebook Legends School of carnival Aruba



Saturday 1

Before our time! Recital

- Club di Movimiento Presents "Before our Time" recital. The ballerinas will be performing an out of this world show. Don't miss out on this amazing experience!
- Starts at 7:30 PM (also Sunday matinee performance)
- Cas di Cultura, Oranjestad
- Facebook Club di Movimiento

Sunday 2

Xmas Market at the Ostrich Farm

- Unique and delicious locally made, grown and produced products. Great Ambiance, kids craft corner, FREE tour for kids, Traditional X-Mas ham, ayaca, whole grilled fish platter, Turkey and much more!
- From 11 AM till 3 PM
- Aruba Ostrich Farm, St. Cruz
- Facebook Aruba Ostrich Farm



Monday 3

2nd Christmas Lighting Event

- You and your family are invited to join for the 2nd Annual Christmas Lighting Event, where they will light up the street and fountain in front of the Airport Terminal. Let's celebrate the most wonderful time of the year together!
- From 6:30 PM till 8:30 PM
- In front of the Airport Terminal
- Facebook Queen Beatrix International Airport

Tuesday 4

Ling & Sons

- Take advantage of the 20% discount on all fruits and vegetables. It's a great day for shopping.
- From 7:30 AM till 9 PM
- Schotlandstraat 41, Oranjestad
- Facebook Ling and Sons IGA Super Center



SPORTS



Houston Texans quarterback Deshaun Watson (4) celebrates after connecting with wide receiver Demaryius Thomas for a touchdown against the Tennessee Titans during the first half of an NFL football game, Monday, Nov. 26, 2018, in Houston.

Associated Press

Texans beat Titans 34-17 for team-record 8th straight win

By KRISTIE RIEKEN
AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Texans wanted to honor their late owner and founder Robert "Bob" McNair, who died last week at age 81. They knew the perfect way to do that Monday night was to keep their winning streak going. Deshaun Watson threw two touchdown passes and ran for another score as the Texans set a franchise record with their eighth straight victory, 34-17 over the Tennessee Titans.

"The one thing Mr. McNair wanted was a winner," J.J. Watt said. "All he wanted was a winner. He wanted to win every week. He wanted a team that could win and bring a championship to this city. So to be able to win eight straight and to be able to win tonight for him was good, and we're going to try to keep doing that for him."

Continued on Page 19

Over The Wall



Wall, Wizards beat Rockets 135-131 in OT despite Harden's 54

Washington Wizards guard John Wall (2) shoots against Danuel House (4) during overtime of an NBA basketball game, Monday, Nov. 26, 2018, in Washington. The Wizards won 135-131 in overtime

Associated Press
Page 20

Houston Texans vs Tennessee Titans

Continued from Page 18

Demaryius Thomas scored his first two touchdowns with Houston and Lamar Miller ran for 162 yards, including a 97-yard TD.

"We need to try and keep getting better," coach Bill O'Brien said. "We need to take the mantra that we're going to improve every day." The Texans trailed by 10 early before reeling off 27 straight points.

Houston receiver DeAndre Hopkins said there was no panic after the team fell behind in the first quarter.

"We've been down 0-3 as a record, so being down 10-0 on the board is nothing to this team," he said.

Tennessee (5-6) finally scored again on a 48-yard reception by Corey Davis late in the third quarter, but the second TD by Thomas — this one for 10 yards — made it 34-17 with just more than eight minutes left.

Marcus Mariota, who missed the second half of last week's game with a stinger, was 22 of 23 for 303 yards and two touchdowns. He completed his first 19 passes before an incompleteness with just more than a minute remaining.

Miller's 97-yard breakaway in the second quarter made it 21-10. It was the longest run in franchise history and the longest in the NFL since his dash of the same length for a touchdown on Dec. 28, 2014, with the Dolphins. He's the only player in league history with two career rushing touchdowns of 95 yards or longer.

The Titans went ahead 3-0 on their first possession, and Jonnu Smith had a career-long 61-yard catch-and-run touchdown that extended their lead less than halfway through the first quarter.

Houston got going after that, cutting the lead to 10-7 when Thomas grabbed his first touchdown since being traded from Denver on Oct. 30, a 12-yard grab with about six minutes left in the quarter.

Watson put the Texans on top when he scrambled 15 yards for a score on the first play of the second quarter.



Houston Texans running back Lamar Miller (26) breaks away from Tennessee Titans defenders for a 97-yard touchdown run during the first half of an NFL football game, Monday, Nov. 26, 2018, in Houston.

Associated Press

words: "Faith, Family, Philanthropy, Football."

ter. The Titans went for it on fourth-and-inches from the 3 later in the second, but tight end Luke Stocker was stopped for no gain. "If you look at their goal-line defense and having a lot of good knowledge of what they do on the goal line, that's one play that had worked," Tennessee coach Mike Vrabel said. "It didn't work tonight and that's not the reason that we lost. That's a bad play." Miller's long TD, which helped Houston set a franchise record with 281 yards rushing, came on the next play. He took the handoff in the end zone and darted through a crowd of Titans before shedding one tackle and simply outrunning the rest of the defense.

"My whole mindset is just, don't get caught," Miller said. "Because ... when we played the Dolphins, I got caught, so all the guys were giving me a hard time. So that was the only thing on my mind."

The Texans kicked a field goal as time expired in the second quarter to take a 24-10 lead into halftime.

MCNAIR REMEMBERED

The Texans honored McNair in a pregame ceremony, which included a video tribute to him while the Texas A&M Singing Cadets sang "Amazing Grace." While the video was played, one side of the video board displayed the

WATSON'S WORK

Watson has thrown 39 touchdown passes in his first 18 career games, which is third in NFL history behind Hall of Famers Kurt Warner (44) and Dan Marino (40). His 70 yards rushing on Monday were a career best and he tied Matt Schaub's franchise record by throwing a TD pass in his 16th straight game.

INJURIES

Titans cornerback Malcolm Butler left in the second quarter to be evaluated for a concussion and did not return. ... Houston WR Keke Coutee didn't return after injuring his hamstring in the third quarter.

UP NEXT

Titans: Host the New York Jets on Sunday. □



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Washington Wizards guard John Wall (2) reacts with guard Bradley Beal (3) after Beal's dunk during overtime of an NBA basketball game against the Houston Rockets, Monday, Nov. 26, 2018, in Washington.

Associated Press

By The Associated Press
WASHINGTON (AP) — John Wall scored a season-high 36 points, including six in overtime, and the Washington Wizards overcame James Harden's season-best 54 points to outlast the Houston Rockets 135-131 on Monday night.

Wall had two baskets in the extra period and finished with 11 assists. Bradley Beal equaled his season high with 32 points for the Wizards. Otto Porter hit a runner with 4:37 to play for the first basket in overtime and the Wizards remained ahead from

NBA Capsule

there. Wall followed with a jumper to make it 129-125 and later made another jumper that pushed the lead to five. Beal's jumper extended it to 133-126 with 1:50 to play.

Harden had 44 points through three quarters but missed five of his seven shots in the fourth. In overtime, Harden whose career high is 60, was 1 of 2 from the field and had two free throws.

He had 11 turnovers, three in overtime.

Eric Gordon scored a season-high 36 for the short-handed Rockets, who played without Chris Paul for the second straight game.

WARRIORS 116, MAGIC 110 OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Kevin Durant scored a

season-high 49 points, giving Golden State the lead on a three-point play with 1:19 left before hitting a 3-pointer with 22 seconds remaining to send the Warriors past Orlando.

Durant topped his 44-point performance two nights earlier with another brilliant outing on both ends — and Klay Thompson was his scoring sidekick once more as the two-time defending NBA champions played without injured All-Stars Stephen Curry and Draymond Green.

Durant became the seventh player in Warriors history to post consecutive 40-point games — along with Rick Barry, Wilt Chamberlain, Curry, Antawn Jamison, Purvis Short and Thompson, according to Elias.

Nikola Vucevic had 30 points, 12 rebounds and six assists for the Magic, who coming off a victory over the Los Angeles Lakers on the road Sunday.

CELTICS 124, PELICANS 107 NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Kyrie Irving closed out a 26-point, 10-assist performance with a 3-pointer and a tough baseline fade over Anthony Davis, and Boston pulled away late for a victory over New Orleans.

Jayson Tatum, who scored 20, threw down a right-handed dunk while being fouled by Davis with 2:26 left, at which point Pelicans coach Alvin Gentry began subbing out starters and fans started filing out, resigned to just New Orleans' second loss in 10 home games this season.

Al Horford scored 20 points, and Marcus Morris had 19 points and 11 rebounds for Boston, which punished the Pelicans for their 22 turnovers, converting them into 32 points.

HORNETS 110, BUCKS 107 CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — Kemba Walker and Jeremy Lamb each had 21 points, and Charlotte held on to beat Milwaukee after nearly squandering a 25-point, third-quarter lead.

Marvin Williams added 16 points and eight rebounds, and Tony Parker had 15 points off the bench for

the Hornets, who bounced back from a loss at Atlanta on Sunday night and ended a two-game skid.

The Bucks nearly came all the way back, cutting the lead to one with 17 seconds left on a layup by Giannis Antetokounmpo.

But Walker made two free throws with 7.1 seconds left and the Bucks failed to get off a good shot after a side inbound, with Eric Bledsoe forced to launch an off-balance 3-pointer at the buzzer that hit off the glass and the rim and bounced away as time expired. Antetokounmpo had 20 points, 13 rebounds and nine assists. Bledsoe scored 17 points.

PACERS 121, JAZZ 88

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Doug McDermott scored a season-high 21 points and Indiana rolled to an easy victory without leading scorer Victor Oladipo, beating Utah.

Myles Turner set the tone with 16 points, all in the first three quarters, and seven Pacers reached double figures. Tyreke Evans scored 14 points and Cory Joseph and Domantas Sabonis each had 13.

Donovan Mitchell, who scores 20.6 per game, sat out his second game with bruised ribs and Utah was playing a back-to-back, but it was 19 turnovers and poor shooting that buried the Jazz and dropped their usually stellar home record to 2-6.

SPURS 108, BULLS 107

CHICAGO (AP) — LaMarcus Aldridge scored 11 of his 20 points in the fourth quarter, and San Antonio held off Chicago.

DeMar DeRozan had 21 points and Patty Mills finished with 17 as San Antonio improved to 2-1 on a four-game trip. Bryn Forbes made three of the Spurs' 10 3-pointers on his way to 13 points.

Chicago had two chances to go in front in the final seconds and came up empty each time.

Zach LaVine was short on a 3-point try from the top of the key, and Ryan Arcidiacono missed a jumper as time expired. □

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Tiger's Tour Championship win changes conversation

By DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

NASSAU, Bahamas (AP) —

The first stop is Sam Snead and his 82 career PGA Tour victories.

The ultimate stop is Jack Nicklaus and his 18 majors, the gold standard in golf.

Both milestones are now in play for Tiger Woods, which is not to suggest they are within reach. That they are at least a topic of conversation is a victory in itself considering it took four back surgeries — the last one to fuse his lower spine — for Woods to even compete again.

And then he took hopes to another level by winning the Tour Championship for his 80th career tour victory. "I know I can win tournaments again," Woods said Tuesday.

His next chance is at the Hero World Challenge this week, an unofficial event that counts only in the world ranking, his bank account and his confidence. More curious is what Woods will do in 2019 and for how much longer.

He turns 43 at the end of the year, and with age comes a dose of practical thinking.

His expectations are high by his standards. Given the level of attention he draws, the expectations of everyone around him are sure to be much higher. He was asked if he was close to having the same expectations he did 15 years ago.

"It's not the same. It never will be. I'll never feel that again," he said. "To be what, 28 years old? Physi-

cally, I'll never be like that. So expectations are different than they used to be, for sure. Now, can I still win?

swing that was the first sign he could return. He was No. 1,199 in the world ranking when he played his holi-

11 years of at least five victories and nine years with at least one major through 2008, when he won his 14th

and then Rory McIlroy in the final group over the last two days to win the Tour Championship.

That was the moment that mattered.

And then the moment was gone. Never has a victory this big had a shelf life so short.

Woods was in Paris the next day as all the attention shifted to the Ryder Cup, which ended with a European victory and Woods failing to win a match. He says he was exhausted from a long summer. Woods qualified for the Bridgestone Invitational at Firestone at the last minute, meaning he played seven big tournaments in a span of nine weeks, all of them in stifling heat except for Paris.

Winning didn't really sink in until he returned home to Florida and was given a surprise celebration party at his restaurant. He said it has become "our Jupiter tradition," celebrating victories for PGA Tour players when they win.

"Finally, they get to celebrate one of my wins," he said.

The next one?

The first step is figuring out where to play.

Woods is eligible for the winners-only start to the year at Kapalua, which is a possibility.

He might end up dropping a tournament or two in the spring because of the crowded calendar. Three of the majors are on courses where he has won before — Augusta National, Bethpage Black (PGA Championship) and Pebble Beach (U.S. Open).

There will be talk of catching Snead and resuming the chase of Nicklaus, all because of one win that a year ago didn't seem likely. □



In this Sept. 23, 2018, file photo, Tiger Woods, center, and Rory McIlroy, right, make their way down the 18th fairway during the final round of the Tour Championship golf tournament in Atlanta.

Associated Press

Can I still compete? Yes. Can I do it for the next 20 years? No. Because that's not realistic."

Indeed, his expectations at the peak of his career were far different.

"Just win. Win everything," he said. "Because I felt like I could."

And now he knows he can win again, a process that took two weeks short of a full year.

It began in early October a year ago when he posted a short video of a slow, full

day event in the Bahamas last year. He twice had a chance to win on the back nine in Florida. He had the lead on Sunday in a major at Carnoustie, and he challenged Brooks Koepka to the finish at Bellerive in the PGA Championship. He went from being a vice captain to a captain's pick in the Ryder Cup.

Woods returns to the Bahamas at No. 13 in the world, which on paper sounds more amazing than it really is because he was so low in the ranking from having played so little that he essentially was starting from scratch. There was no way to go but up.

Woods can't call this his best year because he had

major at Torrey Pines on a left leg that required season-ending surgery after the U.S. Open.

But it was special, measured beyond victories.

"Probably the most rewarding, because there was a point ... I just didn't know if I would ever do this again," he said.

"You always hear me say, 'It's a process.' But if you look at this entire year, it literally was a process. You saw me have flashes, and then I would rework a few things here and there. Toward the end of the year, I just became more and more consistent as a tournament player again."

It culminated at East Lake, when he beat Justin Rose

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Shah's 14 wickets lead Pakistan to innings win over NZ

Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Legspinner Yasir Shah's rich match haul of 14 wickets earned Pakistan victory against New Zealand by an innings and 16 runs in the second test on Tuesday.

After a career-best 8-41 to help dismiss New Zealand for 90, Shah grabbed 6-143 as the Black Caps followed on and were all out for 312 after tea on the fourth day. Shah equaled the Pakistan record for wickets in a test with fast bowler Imran Khan, who achieved his feat in 1982 against Sri Lanka in Lahore.

"I haven't bowled as well as this, especially with the pitch offering turn and bounce like it did," Shah said.

"The attempt was to put the disappointment of the first test behind and compete better. We just needed to keep getting wickets, and thanks God that happened."

Centuries by Haris Sohail and Babar Azam put Pakistan in command after making 418-5 declared. Shah then went to work.



Pakistan's bowler Yasir Shah (L) reacts with Imam-ul-Haq (C) and Hasan Ali victory in a cricket test match against New Zealand in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, Tuesday, Nov. 27, 2018.

Associated Press

He has 22 wickets in the series, and needs five more to reach 200 in his career. They should come in Abu Dhabi, where the teams return for the third test and series decider from Monday.

New Zealand won the first test there by four runs.

"Yasir's spell was the best that I have ever seen in my years of test cricket," Pakistan skipper Sarfraz Ahmed said.

"The responsibility was first with the batsmen to make

some runs, and they delivered."

Ross Taylor (82), Henry Nicholls (77) and Tom Latham (50) led New Zealand's resistance, but the damage was wrought in the first innings.

"We batted better in the second innings, but that session yesterday when Yasir put us under tremendous pressure and put the ball in the right areas (did us in)," New Zealand captain Kane Williamson said.

"He is an exceptional bowl-

er, and it's important we learn some lessons quickly because we will face all the bowlers again (in the third test)."

Forced to follow on, New Zealand resumed on 131-2 and Taylor and Latham were out in the first session. Latham was contentiously adjudged caught behind off Hasan Ali soon after completing his half-century. Umpire Paul Reiffel referred to third umpire Ian Gould to confirm. Latham played a defensive shot close to his front pad, and as the ball passed the bat the replay technology spiked.

However, Latham walked off the field in disbelief. After lasting for 158 deliveries and hitting four boundaries, his dismissal ended an 80-run, third-wicket stand with Taylor.

Two balls later, Nicholls successfully reviewed an lbw decision against him as video showed Hasan's delivery would have missed the leg stump.

Taylor completed his half-century off 54 balls when he drove Hasan through the point boundary off the

first ball of the day.

But Taylor went on the defense for a while before he played a reckless sweep, half an hour before lunch, and top-edged offspinner Bilal Asif to deep backward square leg. Taylor's innings featured seven fours and a six and came off 128 balls. New Zealand reached 222-4 at lunch.

Shah then trapped BJ Watling on 27 off the second new ball after lunch. Hasan returned to accept the wicket of Colin de Grandhomme for the third time in the series. De Grandhomme went for an unnecessary pull shot and played onto the fast bowler on 14.

Ish Sodhi also gave his wicket away when he tried to sweep Shah, missed the line of the ball and was clean bowled for 4.

Nicholls was undone four overs after tea by Hasan's sharp delivery which nipped back into the left-hander to knock back the off stump.

Shah wrapped up the innings soon after by claiming the wickets of Neil Wagner and Trent Boult. □

Copa Libertadores final to be played outside Argentina

By PEDRO SERVIN

Associated Press

LUQUE, Paraguay (AP) — Fearing more fan violence, organizers have decided that the postponed Copa Libertadores final between two Argentine rivals should be played in another country.

The second leg of the final — the biggest game in South American club soccer — had to be called off on Saturday when visiting Boca Juniors' bus was attacked en route to River Plate's stadium and at least six players were injured.

South American organizer CONMEBOL announced Tuesday that the game will now be played outside Argentina on Dec. 8 or 9, although a new venue has yet to be picked. The first leg finished 2-2.

The decision has yet to be



Security forces stand guard outside Antonio Vespucio Liberti stadium where River Plate soccer fans gather before the announcement that their team's final Copa Libertadores match against rival Boca Juniors is suspended for a second day in a row in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Sunday, Nov. 25, 2018.

Associated Press

validated by the soccer body's disciplinary committee, and Boca's club presi-

dent Daniel Angelici said he will appeal all the way to the Court of Arbitration

for Sport "if needed."

"We do not accept to play any match until the

court decides and we do not agree that dates have been set because we are not ready to play a final," he said after the meeting at CONMEBOL's headquarters.

Miami has been touted as a possible host for the game, while Paraguay and Brazil have also offered to stage the highly anticipated derby between the Argentine archrivals.

River Plate's President Rodolfo D'Onofrio said his club should not be blamed for the attack.

D'Onofrio also disagreed with CONMEBOL's decision to strip River of the right to host the final at the Monumental de Nunez stadium.

"It can't be that a River-Boca will not be played (there) because some people caused a disaster," he said. □

Ligety healthy, back on track after injury-filled seasons

By **PAT GRAHAM**

AP Sports Writer

BEAVER CREEK, Colo. (AP)

— His face showed little expression as he glided his way down the hill. This was serious business — no laughing, smiling or crying. With his two-time Olympic gold medalist father holding on, 17-month-old Jax Ligety took his first trek down the slope a few months ago. The look: Pure determination.

It's a look Ted Ligety knows all too well. He's that determined to return to the top. For years, Ligety has been plagued by knee and back issues. Now healthier than he's been in a while, Ligety's attempting to rediscover the giant slalom form that allowed him to win an Olympic gold medal (2014 Sochi Games), capture five World Cup titles in the discipline and challenge Austrian standout Marcel Hirscher.

"I don't know if I'm the Ted of 2012, which was pretty fast," said Ligety, who plans to compete in the super-G and GS this weekend in Beaver Creek, Colorado. "That's definitely where I'm shooting for, though. I



In this March 17, 2018, file photo, United States' Ted Ligety competes during a men's giant slalom ski race at the World Cup finals in Are, Sweden.

feel like it's getting to the point where I can start winning races again. That's the goal right now."

His last World Cup victory was Oct. 25, 2015, in Austria — before he frayed the cartilage in his hip, tore the ACL in his right knee and strained his back to the point where the 34-year-old from Park City, Utah,

needed season-ending surgery in January 2017 to fix herniated disks. There was promise last season, with a third-place showing in Germany just before the Pyeongchang Games last February.

But his GS title defense at the Olympics didn't go as planned as he finished tied for 15th place in a race won

by Hirscher. Ligety did take fifth during the combined, also won by Hirscher.

As an experience, Ligety described Pyeongchang as "fun" with his wife, Mia, Jax and his family in attendance.

As a racer, not so much. "I was there to compete and go for medals and came up a little short in the

combined and vastly underperformed in the giant slalom," said Ligety, who captured Olympic gold in the combined at the 2006 Turin Games. "It's not the way I would've liked to have things to go down in the Olympics."

These days, he's all about family time. His wife and son travel with him as often as possible. Ligety gave his son his first taste of skiing at a New Zealand venue in August.

"I definitely want him to be a skier. Do I want him to be a ski racer? If he wants to. It's not something I would ever push on him," Ligety said.

"A big part of my life is skiing. I want him to ski race at least when he's younger so he has that base. But I wouldn't push him beyond just going out there and having fun with friends."

There was a time when his rivals used to refer to him as "Mr. GS" for his dominance in the event. Ligety had a stretch where he captured three straight world championship GS titles and another during the 2013 season when he won six of eight races in the event. □

Ex-NBA star Dikembe Mutombo moved to tears in Jerusalem



NBA Hall of Famer Dikembe Mutombo talks to kids during a workshop at the Sylvan Adams sports center at the YMCA in Jerusalem, Tuesday, November 27, 2018.

By **ISABEL DEBRE**

Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP)

— NBA Hall of Famer Dikembe Mutombo, a fearsome 7-foot-2 center in his playing days, said Tuesday he was

moved to tears at the sight of Jerusalem's ancient walls.

Mutombo, who hails from a devout Christian community in Congo, described his first visit to the holy city as

an emotional experience. He said he thought about his parents, who died before they could see the place they had spent their lives reading about in the Bible.

"My parents might be gone, but they instilled in me the dream of coming here, and I've made it," he said. "I can't believe I'm really here."

Mutombo was in town for the inauguration of a new sports center, where he flashed his signature finger-wag and showed off his trademark shot-blocking skills at a clinic in front of a mixed crowd of excited Jewish, Christian and Muslim children.

The center, located at the city's YMCA and sponsored by Canadian-Israeli philanthropist and sports enthusiast Sylvan Adams, calls

itself an "an oasis of coexistence" in the diverse city, catering to Israelis and Palestinians alike.

Mutombo said that coming from a conflict-ridden country convinced him of the salutary power of sport, and allowed him relate to politically troubled places.

"Who doesn't know about all the wars that have taken place here?" he said.

"But on the court you don't talk about whose skin is darker, which ethnicity group you come from, which language you speak. You just play the game."

In the decade since his retirement, Mutombo has invested millions in philanthropic causes in his native country and abroad. He said he feels at home in his new role as a humanitarian ambassador, especially since the NBA's golden

days of defense are long gone.

"All the young kids these days shoot hoops like they're shooting guns," he said.

"I wouldn't have lasted more than a year."

During the clinic, Mutombo praised young players' free throws and blocked shots with the flick of his wrist. His booming voice and basso laugh engaged everyone in range.

Emily Polanski, 11, the only girl on the court, said although it's hard to play alone with so many boys, she dreams of competing one day in the WNBA, and takes Mutombo as an example of how to prevail over obstacles.

"Boy or girl, when you're playing, it shouldn't matter," she said, looking up at the towering Mutombo. □



By: Dr. Carlos Viana

The Holidays are upon us and for many of us that means parties with lots of alcohol. Drinking alcohol in moderation can be fun and sociable, but, is alcohol healthy?

A Danish study found that "Wine drinkers had significantly lower mortality from both coronary heart disease and cancer than did non-wine drinkers." Beer and other alcohol drinkers enjoyed a smaller benefit.

This is good news for some; drinking with the doctor's permission! But wait; if you are not a drinker or suffer from liver disease, gastritis, or high blood pressure, it's not a good idea to start drinking alcohol for the health benefits. However, if you enjoy an occasional drink and are otherwise healthy, go back and read the first paragraph. Drinking "in moderation" is the key. The benefits are only effective when keeping to the recommended levels. To work the right way, alcohol intake should be spread over the whole week and binge sessions, like at a party should be avoided.

According to the American Heart Association (AHA), moderate is defined as 2 drinks a day if you're a male 65 and younger, or 1 drink a day if you're a female or a male 66 and older. 1 drink means 12 oz of beer, 4 oz of wine, 1.5 oz of 80-proof hard liquor, or 1 oz of 100-proof liquor. Unfortunately, for many having a good time

Hair of the Dog

means doing everything to excess which includes overindulgence in alcohol consumption and the ensuing effect of a hangover. A hangover is the result of a combination of alcohol toxicity, dehydration, and Vitamin A, B and C depletion all caused by alcohol metabolism on your system. The symptoms are usually a dry mouth, nausea, fatigue; dizziness and headache.

Over the years there have been many folk remedies for hangovers. Some of these "cures" come with the toast "The hair of the dog that bit me"! The homeopathic principle of "like cures like" advice given literally in ancient times, "If a dog bites you, put a hair of the dog into the wound" this was distorted to imply that drinking more alcohol would help your hangover.

Apart from the obvious effects, during a hangover you are suffering the effects of a mild overdose of a depressant drug, your nerves are reacting and you have also flushed vitamins and nutrients from your system causing a shock that your body is struggling to fix. This is why hangover symptoms often include disorientation and "the jitters".

Alcohol enters cells and is broken down into a toxin. Your liver converts this toxin into ammonia and acetic acid, which is non-toxic and can be used by your body for energy. By the way, the other name for acetic acid is vinegar! In a hangover ammonia is metabolized in the brain which has only a limited capacity to remove the excess ammonia coming in.

For those of you really partying to overload who include cocaine the news gets worse. Alcohol and cocaine form a product in your body called cocaethylene. Abusers know that higher alcohol concentrations lead to higher blood cocaine levels. However, high levels of alcohol slow down cocaine metabolism. This slow down may explain why users feel an enhanced euphoria when using the drugs in combination. Regrettably, the risk a sudden death from a heart attack is greatly increased.

So what is a partygoer to do? The best advice is to drink alcohol IN MODERATION avoiding binge drinking, and take red wine in preference to other alcoholic drinks. It's not necessary to have an alcoholic beverage in hand during an entire party. We enjoy sparkling water with a

lime between glasses of red wine when socializing. Always eat something either before or while you are drinking. If you have drunk large quantities of alcohol, drink plenty of water afterwards. This will counteract dehydration. Rather than drink coffee the morning after a drinking session, a breakfast consisting of complex carbohydrates, a whole grain cereal right for your metabolic type, a glass of fresh fruit juice and a cup of green tea should bring your blood sugar level up to an acceptable level and help to rehydrate your body.

What not to do! Do not drink alcohol to try to neutralize your hangover. Bloody Mary's only make you progressively more useless as you drink more of them and slow down the healing process of your body. Do not waste your time with aspirin that will destroy your liver if combined with alcohol. Aspirin can cause sudden death at any time. So prevalent is death by aspirin that in the US that many aspirin induced deaths are listed on "cause" as "natural". Alcohol damages the liver; and aspirin damages the liver; but if you mix the two, the damage is much worse.

The most important natural supplement for a hangover is mineral water that helps rehydrate your body. Natural supplements that help neutralize alcohol byproducts and protect cells against the damaging effects of alcohol include vitamin C, B Complex, folic Acid, the amino acids SAME and glutathione, vitamin E, and selenium. We like to take extra vitamin C & B complex with a liter/qt of water before an evening of festivities. If more help is needed, we provide colon-hydro therapy in our clinic which can help flush out toxins and re-hydrate the body quickly.

Get The Point! The Holidays should be spent reconnecting with family and friends in a festive exchange. In ancient times, putting "the hair of the dog that bit you into the wound" did not help prevent infection. Nothing is said about the dog biting you twice as you try to get some of its hair; which is what will happen if you try to cure your hangover with more alcohol. If the festivities have come back to bite you, or you are just looking for healthy ways to celebrate, we are open throughout the season to help you. Salud, Santé, Cheers, To Your Health! ☐

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US stock indexes wobble mostly lower a day after a big gain

By MARLEY JAY
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Major U.S. stock indexes are mostly lower Tuesday after a strong gain the day before. A steep loss for United Technologies is taking industrial and defense companies lower. Steelmakers and other materials companies are falling while technology and internet companies edge higher.

KEEPING SCORE: The S&P 500 index lost 3 points, or 0.1 percent, to 2,670 at 11:44 a.m. Eastern time. The index jumped 1.6 percent Monday. The Dow Jones Industrial Average fell 70 points, or 0.3 percent, to 24,569. The Nasdaq composite slipped 5 points, or 0.1 percent, to 7,076. The Russell 2000 index of smaller-company stocks slid 6 points, or 0.5 percent, to 1,499.

NO LONGER UNITED: United Technologies said it will split into three companies now that it has finished its \$23 billion purchase of aviation electronics maker Rockwell Collins. The company's aerospace and defense in-



In this Nov. 20, 2018, file photo, a trader works at the New York Stock Exchange.

Associated Press

dustry business will keep the United Technologies name, while its Otis elevator business and Carrier air conditioner and building systems unit will become separate companies.

The company also said it doesn't expect to buy back any more of its stock during the split, which won't

be complete until 2020. The stock fell 5.6 percent to \$120.80. Other defense companies also dipped. Raytheon fell 2.1 percent to \$170.95 and Northrop Grumman gave up 2.8 percent to \$258.56.

TAKEOFF: Spirit Airlines surged 16.4 percent to \$59.32 after it forecast a

big jump in revenue in the fourth quarter. Analysts were optimistic that other airlines might see similar gains. Delta climbed 2.8 percent to \$58.27 and United Continental picked up 1.3 percent to \$92.93.

BRISTOL BRUISED: Bristol-Myers Squibb fell after it reported disappointing re-

sults from a cancer drug study. The company said the combination of its drugs Yervoy and Opdivo did not impose survival for patients with small cell lung cancer. Bristol-Myers was studying the drug as a maintenance therapy for patients who had already finished a round of chemotherapy. The stock shed 3.7 percent to \$50.76.

CAN YOU HEAR ME NOW?: Internet and communications companies moved higher. Verizon gained 1.6 percent to \$60.10 and Netflix rose 1.5 percent to \$265.22. Alphabet, Google's parent company, added 0.8 percent to \$1,064.

TARIFF TURMOIL FOR TECH: Trump told the Wall Street Journal that he expects to raise tariffs on \$200 billion in Chinese imports on Jan. 1. His administration recently imposed a 10 percent tax on those imports, and at the start of the year that's scheduled to rise to 25 percent. Trump also threatened again to place tariffs on all remaining U.S. imports from China. □

US consumer confidence slips in November but is still strong

By PAUL WISEMAN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. consumer confidence slipped this month but remains strong.

The Conference Board, a business research group, said Tuesday that its consumer confidence index fell to 135.7 in November from October's 18-year high 137.9.

The index measures consumers' assessment of current economic conditions and their outlook for the next six months. Their evaluation of today's economy improved — but their assessment of future conditions slipped in November. "Overall, consumers are still quite confident that economic growth will continue at a solid pace into early 2019," says Lynn Franco, a Conference Board econo-

mist. "However, if expectations soften further in the coming months, the pace of growth is likely to begin moderating."

Economists monitor consumer spirits because Americans' spending accounts for about 70 percent of U.S. economic activity. From July through September, consumer spending rose at a 4 percent annual pace, fastest since late 2014.

Americans' sunny mood reflects a strong job market. Unemployment has dropped to a five-decade low 3.7 percent. That is why 46.6 percent of respondents told the Conference Board that jobs are "plentiful" — highest share since January 2001. Economists are worried that U.S. economic growth could decelerate as the effect of last year's tax cuts fades and

President Donald Trump's taxes on imports take a toll. "Despite a modest decline in confidence and the recognition that the pace of economic growth is slowing, consumers remain an upbeat lot," Jim Baird, chief investment officer at Plante Moran Financial Advisors, said in a research note. "For now, they also appear to be comfortable opening their wallets and purses, letting their spending speak clearly on their behalf." □



In this Nov. 23, 2018, file photo Shauna Turlipof, left, and Kathi Bankes make their way through other Black Friday shoppers at the Viewmont Mall in Scranton, Pa.

Associated Press

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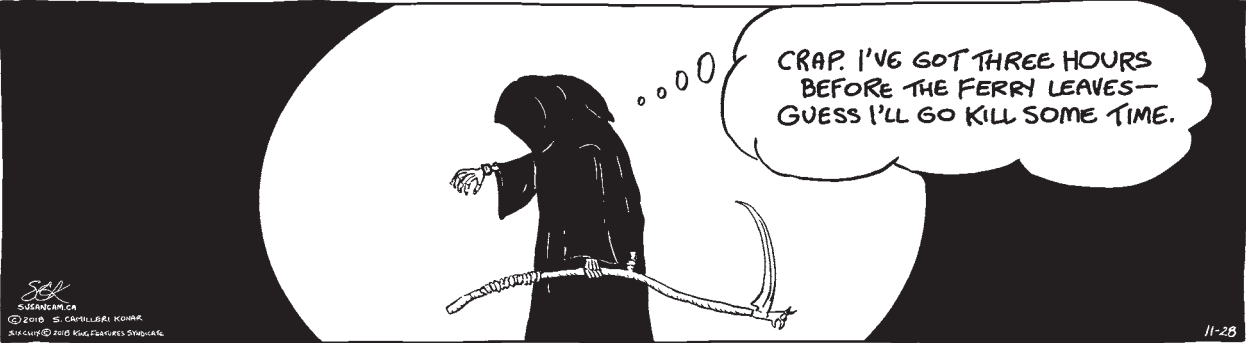
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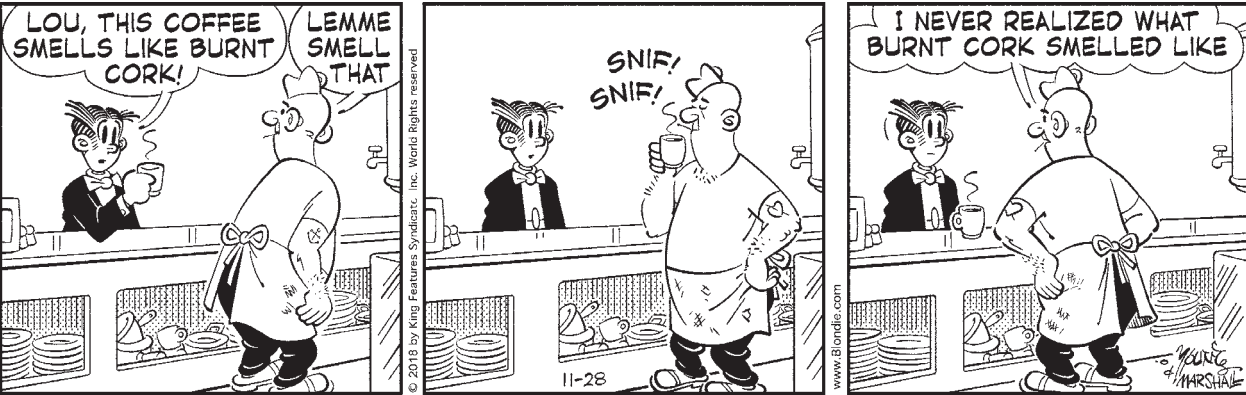
Mutts



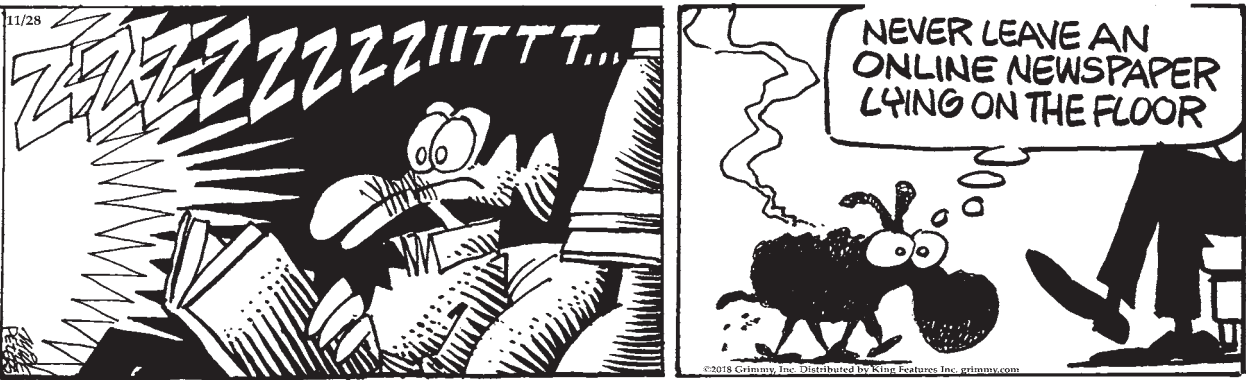
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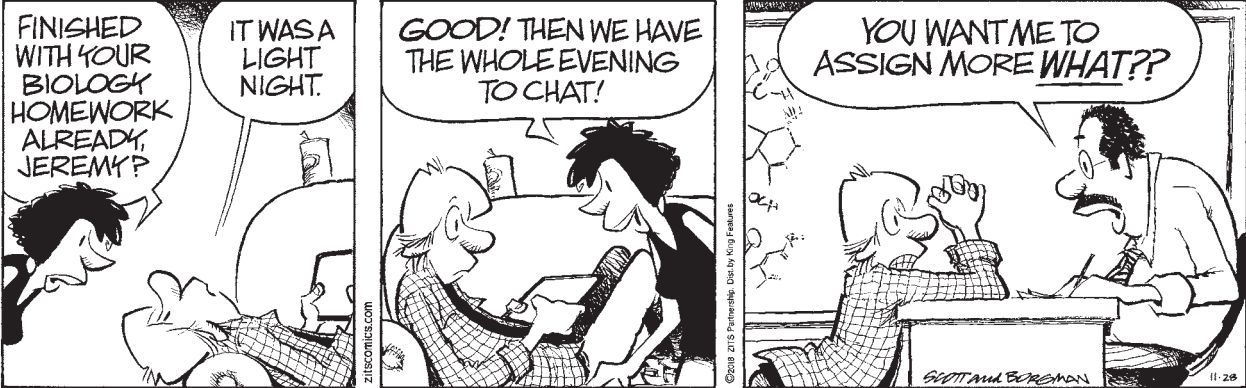
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Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

	5	1	4	6	9	8	7	
	7						4	
		9	2	7	3	6		
	6						2	
7					4			3
1				2		4		7
5					1			6
	4						5	
		3	7	9	5	2		

Difficulty Level ★★★ 11/28

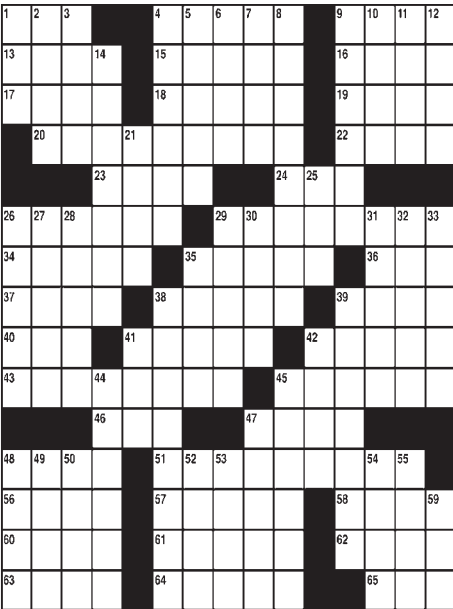
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

1	3	5	4	6	9	8	2	7
6	2	4	7	3	8	1	9	5
8	9	7	5	2	1	6	4	3
7	8	1	2	9	6	3	5	4
9	5	2	8	4	3	7	6	1
3	4	6	1	5	7	9	8	2
4	7	3	6	8	2	5	1	9
5	6	9	3	1	4	2	7	8
2	1	8	9	7	5	4	3	6

ACROSS

- 1 Cow's comment
4 Plenty; more than enough
9 Georgia __; univ. in Atlanta
13 __ roast; cut of beef
15 Hay bundles
16 Sore
17 Recipe verb
18 Exhausted
19 Actor Everett
20 Arouse; stir up
22 Ripped
23 Deep mud
24 Inventor Whitney
26 Go higher
29 The Mamas & the Papas member
34 Knight's weapon
35 Sulks
36 Opening
37 Afternoon socials
38 Curtsied
39 Skinky skirt
40 McMahon & Marinaro
41 Disappeared
42 Free-for-all
43 Kept
45 Cruise ships
46 Floral wire service
47 __ belt; car safety feature
48 Surgery memento
51 Purse or hat
56 "O __, All Ye Faithful"
57 Mealtimes
58 Genuine
60 King toppers
61 Cacophony
62 Indira's robe
63 Prepare spuds
64 Actor Tim
65 Presidential monogram
- DOWN
- 1 Fern. title
2 Pitcher's delights
3 Leave out
4 Ridiculous
5 Sugar __; New York's state tree
6 Entreaty
7 Church season
8 Highly honored
9 Stratagem
10 Resound
11 Scorch
12 "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. __"
14 Elementary textbooks
21 Obey
25 __ Cruces, NM
26 Fall bloom
27 Uppsala resident
28 Seashore
29 Did a lawn chore
30 Imitated
31 Nimble
32 Less nuts
33 Secret agents
35 A la __; served with ice cream
38 Colorful scarf
39 Trusted counselors
41 In good shape
42 Hamm and Farrow
44 Once again
45 Diminish
47 In a __; sort of
48 Con game
49 __-Cola
50 Singer and actor Ed __
52 Weather forecast
53 Bedspring
54 __ up on; study about
55 Linear measure
59 Be dishonest



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

11/28/18

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

LEST	STARS	SCOT
ONCE	TEPEE	LOVE
AVID	REEXAMINES	
DYE	BIND	EVERT
	NEEDY	DDE
RATTLE	HEARST	
EDICT	TRIAL	HUB
DISH	POUND	HOB
DET	GRUNT	GARBO
USURER	MARTYR	
	RAY	BURKE
ASWAN	SERB	NFL
CHANDELIER	TIRE	
TOFU	BERRA	ONES
SETS	BOSSY	AGES

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Clues sought for decline in Hawaii humpback whale sightings

By **CALEB JONES**

Associated Press

HONOLULU (AP) — Researchers are convening this week to compare clues about a significant decline in the number of sightings of North Pacific humpback whales in their traditional breeding grounds off Hawaii.

Fewer sightings doesn't necessarily mean the iconic giants are dying off, or that they're not still migrating to the islands. But the apparent disappearance of many whales from a historically predictable location is causing concern and some researchers believe there's a link between warmer ocean temperatures in Alaska and the effect that has on the whales' food chain.

While scientists say it's too early to draw any conclusions about the phenomenon, the decline has sparked enough interest that a consortium of whale experts will meet Tuesday and Wednesday in Honolulu to compare data and attempt to better under-



In this Jan. 23, 2005 file photo, a humpback whale leaps out of the water in the channel off the town of Lahaina on the island of Maui in Hawaii.

Associated Press

stand what's happening and what to do about it. The drop in sightings is estimated at 50 percent to 80 percent over the past four years. Researchers use a variety of monitoring methods to count the whales, including visual observations conducted aboard ships that follow specific coordinates and acoustic monitoring that listens for whale

songs from fixed underwater locations. There is also a less scientifically rigorous count done each year where residents on shore report their sightings. The humpbacks traditionally migrate each autumn from Alaska, where they feed during the summer months, to Hawaii, where they mate and give birth during the winter. Based

on the latest large-scale population study, it is estimated that half of all North Pacific humpbacks make the journey to Hawaii each year, putting the total number of whales making the 6,000-mile (9,700-kilometer) round trip migration at around 11,000 annually. Most humpbacks were taken off the Endangered Species list in 2016 but are

still federally protected. Officials with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration hope this week's meetings will help them to form a consensus about what to do going forward to help ensure the species' continued success. NOAA conducts research, creates federal regulations and enforces laws meant to protect the whales and their habitats.

Marc Lammers, research coordinator for the agency's Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary, said different research groups have collected various data sets that all seem to point toward decreased whale sightings.

"People started to report fewer sightings and there was concern about what might be going on," Lammers said in a telephone interview. "We've noticed that there's been basically a decrease in the overall acoustic energy levels that we're picking up produced by humpback whale songs." □

Fossil of plant-eating reptile found in southern New Mexico



This image provided by the New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs shows the fossil exhibit of Gordodon, a specialized plant-eating reptile, on display at the New Mexico Museum of Natural History & Science in Albuquerque, N.M.

Associated Press

Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — The earliest known example of a plant-eating reptile has been found in the fossil record in southern New Mexico, the New Mexico Museum of Natural History said.

The museum made the announcement this week, saying the unique structure of the skull, jaws and teeth of the sail-backed reptile indicate it was an herbivore, and that such specialized plant-eating wasn't previously known in reptiles older than about 200 million years.

The fossil bones were discovered near Alamogordo by Ethan Schuth while on a University of Oklahoma geology class field trip in 2013. The bones were part of an exquisitely preserved but incomplete skeleton.

Field crews spent about a year collecting the bones

from the site and more time was spent removing the hard sandstone surrounding the fossils so research could ensue.

Paleontology curator Spencer Lucas and his team from the museum determined the bones were about 300 million years old, meaning the reptile lived during the early part of the Permian Period, or more than 50 million years before the origin of dinosaurs.

Lucas and research associate Matt Celleskey identified the skeleton as belonging to a new genus and species that they named Gordodon kraineri.

Gordodon is derived from the Spanish word gordo, or fat, and the Greek word odon, or tooth, as the species had large pointed teeth at the tips of its jaws. The species name kraineri honors Karl Krainer, an

Austrian geologist who contributed to knowledge about the Permian period in New Mexico.

"Gordodon rewrites the books by pushing back our understanding of the evolution of such specialized herbivory by about 100 million years," Lucas said in a statement issued Wednesday.

Gordodon was about 5 feet (1.5 meters) long and weighed an estimated 75 pounds (34 kilograms). It was believed to have been a selective feeder on high-nutrient plants due to the advanced structure of its skull, jaws and teeth. Experts at the museum say other early herbivorous reptiles were not selective, chomping on any plants they came across.

They say Gordodon had some of the same specializations found in modern animals like goats and deer. □

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'The Rider' tops Gotham Awards, kicking off awards season

By JAKE COYLE
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — In the first major soiree of Hollywood's awards season, Chloe Zhao's elegiac, lyrical Western "The Rider" took best feature film at the 28th annual Gotham Awards.

It was a surprising, but far from baffling conclusion to the Gothams, the New York-based gala for independent film, held Monday night at Cipriani's Wall Street in downtown Manhattan. The awards were generally spread around, including a pair of prizes for Bo Burnham's coming-of-age directing debut "Eighth Grade" and Paul Schrader's impassioned Catholic drama "First Reformed."

But the night's final honor went to "The Rider," the second feature by the Chinese-born Zhao, despite no previous awards on the night and only one other nomination: an audience award nod alongside 14 other films. Some may have forgotten it was eligible. Having first premiered at the Cannes Film Festival in May 2017, "The Rider" was



Actress Rachel Weisz, left, holds photos of her co-stars Emma Stone and Olivia Colman from the movie "The Favourite" as she accepts a special honor from Cynthia Nixon, right, at the 28th annual Independent Filmmaker Project's Gotham Awards at Cipriani Wall Street on Monday, Nov. 26, 2018, in New York.

Associated Press

nominated by the Gotham's West Coast corollary, the Independent Film Spirit Awards, in February as one of last year's best.

Zhao, too, wasn't in attendance (she is prepping her

next film). And few looked more surprised than the producers — Bert Hamelinck and Mollye Asher — who accepted the award. "This is going to be the worst acceptance speech," stut-

tered Hamelinck. Yet "The Rider," filmed with Lakota cowboys on South Dakota's Pine Ridge Reservation, persevered over a few Oscar favorites, including Yorgos Lanthimos' pe-

riod romp "The Favourite" and Barry Jenkins' James Baldwin adaptation "If Beale Street Could Talk."

"The Favourite" still went home with two honorary awards: an award for its acting ensemble, led by Olivia Colman, Emma Stone and Rachel Weisz; and a tribute to Weisz. Jenkins applauded the choice of "The Rider" with a standing ovation and a retweet of his earlier praise of the film, in which he called it "ravishing, sublime imagery paired with deeply earnest storytelling."

Unpredictability pervaded the ceremony, especially for the winners, themselves. When the Fred Rogers documentary "Won't You Be My Neighbor" won the Gothams' audience award (not typically a category for documentaries but "Won't You Be My Neighbor" proved a modest summer blockbuster), its director Morgan Neville was stunned, partially since he had already lost best documentary to RaMell Ross' "Hale County This Morning, This Evening." □

White House pastry chefs make National Mall in gingerbread

By DEB RIECHMANN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The traditional White House gingerbread house isn't exactly a house this year. It's a massive, sugary replica of the entire National Mall.

The pastry creation — featured at Monday's unveiling of the White House holiday decorations — required 225 pounds of dough, 25 pounds of chocolate and 20 pounds of white icing.

It includes replicas of the Capitol, the Lincoln and Jefferson memorials, the Washington Monument and the White House, complete with tiny green wreaths with red ribbons on each window.

White House pastry chefs have created gingerbread houses during the

holidays since the early 1970s. The first one de-

picted a Christmas village. Another was a rep-

lica of President Bill Clinton's boyhood home in

Arkansas.

"American Treasures" is the theme of this year's White House holiday decor, designed by first lady Melania Trump, who tweeted a video showing her walking amid the display.

Decorations in the ornate East Room are meant to highlight the diversity and ingenuity of American architecture.

Four custom-made mantelpieces feature the skylines of New York, St. Louis, Chicago and San Francisco.

Seventy-two handmade paper ornaments representing six regions across the nation adorn four 14-foot fir trees.

In the library, trees are decorated with ornaments from all states and territories. □



The gingerbread house, showcasing the full expanse of the National Mall: the Capitol, the Lincoln Memorial, the Jefferson Memorial, the Washington Monument, and the White House is seen in the State Dining Room during the 2018 Christmas Press Preview at the White House in Washington, Monday, Nov. 26, 2018.

Associated Press

'Tis the season for more TV Christmas movies than ever

By **ALICIA RANCILIO**

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP)—Have you heard the one about the girl who didn't care about Christmas but found herself in a small town for the holidays surrounded by decorations, cookies and carolers, and found a new boyfriend and her Christmas spirit by Dec. 25? Hallmark Channel has, and they're airing 22 original movies this year built around plots similar to that. The premise may vary, but the themes are the same and Hallmark is very OK with that.

"Yes, you can pretty much guarantee that when you meet our two leads in the first 10 minutes of a Hallmark movie, it's guaranteed that they will end up together," said Michelle Vicary, the executive vice president of programming and network publicity for Crown Media and Family Networks. While regular network primetime programming tends to take a hiatus during the holiday season, it's Hallmark Channel's time to shine. Their holiday movies are so popular, they begin



This combination photo shows actresses, from left, Candace Cameron Bure, Lori Loughlin, Danica McKellar and Lacey Chabert who are all recurring stars of Hallmark holiday movies.

Associated Press

airing Christmas movies on Oct. 26 and wrap up on Jan. 1.

"When viewers kept telling us by virtue of the ratings that they wanted more (Christmas), it was a natural to extend the time that we were programming for them," said Vicary.

Hallmark sells shirts that say, "All I want to do is drink hot cocoa and watch Hallmark Channel." This year there's also an app called Countdown to Christmas to keep track of the program-

ming on Hallmark Channel and its sister channel, Hallmark Movies and Mysteries (which offers more spiritual fare.) There's an option to set alerts on your phone and add the movie start times to your calendar. On launch day, it had 140,000 downloads.

This year, Hallmark Channel has films starring LeAnn Rimes, Kellie Pickler and Patti LaBelle, but the network also features recurring actresses, dubbed the "Christmas queens" internally by Hallmark, who front a new movie a season on the network: Candace Cameron Bure, Lacey Chabert, Danica McKellar and Lori Loughlin.

Bure reigns supreme. "For the last three years she has had the No. 1 Christmas movie on the Hallmark Channel with very, very stiff competition from Chabert and Loughlin," said Vicary. Bure said the reaction to her Hallmark Christmas movies encourages her to keep making them but also find interesting ways to tell stories that fit the formula.

"It's a big deal to decide which movie to do," she said. "The competitive side of me says, 'Hey, I want to keep topping those charts and helping the company improve and helping my numbers,'" she said. This year's film, "A Shoe Addict's Christmas," is based on a novel by best-selling author Beth Harbison.

Loughlin, who developed her own film for Hallmark this year, admits to also try-

ing to push the envelope a little bit.

"They definitely have a formula and you do have to follow it. If you don't, they reign you back in. As actors we want a little bit of drama so you try to put some highs and lows in there, but you can't argue with (Hallmark). Their format is 100 percent working."

The biggest motivation for returning to Hallmark year after year is the fans, said Bure. She recalled a letter from an older man whose wife had passed away after more than 50 years of marriage. She loved Christmas and would decorate for the season early, and particularly loved Bure's Christmas movies. He forced himself to not only keep up his wife's tradition of decorating but also sat down to watch Bure's movie that year because it's what they would have done as a couple, and it made him feel closer to her.

"It's more than ratings. It's more than a cheesy holiday spirit. There's a deep meaning behind (these movies) for some people. I love all of them, and that's why I keep doing them."

Chabert, who is also known for roles in "Party of Five" and "Mean Girls," says she considers it "an honor" to keep making Christmas movies for Hallmark.

"I've been in this business a long time but the fans of Hallmark are some of the most devoted and some of the most kind," she said. She also says the movies

speak to important themes: "Disconnecting from the world, spending time with family, and just being in touch with what's most important and I think that's always a good reminder."

McKellar agrees: "I really believe these movies encourage connection," she said, joking that she can't count the number of times she's said "family traditions" in her films, adding that's the point. "It's not about ratings. It's about sticking to a set of values that the brand holds dear."

She's especially excited about her offering this year, "Christmas at Grand Valley," because it reunites her with her former "The Wonder Years" co-star, Dan Lauria, who plays her dad in the movie.

Hallmark Channel isn't the only network airing holiday fare. Lifetime does it too and begins airing mostly holiday programming after Nov. 21. They also have their own crop of "go to" talent including Tatyana Ali of "The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air" and Melissa Joan Hart of "Sabrina the Teenage Witch."

"There's certain talent that our audience really connects with around the holidays," said Meghan Hooper, a senior vice president at Lifetime. "We like bringing back some of the same performers like Tatyana Ali that they grew up with 'Fresh Prince,' they now see her on our air year after year. It's leaning into that comfort and nostalgia." □

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24 AT 1:00PM

ROBIN HOOD
TARAN EGERTON | JAMIE FOXX
ALL FORMATS WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [PG-13]
MON-THU: 4:15 | 6:45 | 9:15 | 11:45
FRI: 4:15 | 6:45 | 9:15 | 11:45
SAT: 1:50 | 4:15 | 6:45 | 9:15 | 11:45
SUN: 1:50 | 4:15 | 6:45 | 9:15
MON-FRI: 6:15
SAT-SUN: 3:45 | 6:15

THE CRIMINAL MINDS: SEASON 5
EDDIE REDMAYNE | JOHNNY DEPP
ALL FORMATS WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [PG-13]
MON-THU & SUN: 7:50
FRI-SAT: 7:50 | 10:35
MON-FRI: 3:50 | 6:15 | 9:05
SAT-SUN: 3:25 | 6:15 | 9:05
MON-THU: 5:40 | 8:30
FRI: 5:40 | 8:30 | 11:20
SAT: 2:50 | 5:40 | 8:30 | 11:20
SUN: 2:50 | 5:40 | 8:30

WIDOWS
VIOLA DAVIS | LIAM NEESON
ALL FORMATS WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [R]
MON-FRI: 5:10
SAT-SUN: 2:30 | 5:10

BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY
RAMI MALEK | LUCY BOYNTON
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [PG-13]
MON-THU & SUN: 4:55 | 7:20
FRI-SAT: 4:55 | 7:20 | 11:50
MON-SUN: 9:00

THE GRINCH
BENEDICT CUMBERBATCH | CAMERON SEELY
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [PG]
MON-FRI: 4:50 | 6:55
SAT-SUN: 2:45 | 4:50 | 6:55

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Mick Jagger on new Stones tour, Aretha, acting and Grammys

By MESFIN FEKADU

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Mick Jagger likes a buzz. A natural buzz.

The Rolling Stones frontman, who will tour America next spring with his iconic band, says live shows give him a rush that can't be matched and is the reason that at 75, he still loves touring.

"When you go out in front of all those people you get an enormous rush of chemicals in your body — your own chemicals, not chemicals you've put in," he said laughing.

"Let's face it, it is a huge buzz. Must be like playing football or something," he said.

Jagger should feel like a football player — since he'll be playing the same stadiums as NFL stars when the Stones' No Filter tour launches in Miami on April 20, 2019.

Tickets go on sale Friday and the 13 shows will hit Florida, Texas, Arizona, California, Washington, Colorado, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Illinois and Washington, D.C.

"Basically your life's attuned to doing those few hours onstage and everything else is a build up to that. Of course, you get to enjoy yourself at other times, but really you're thinking about the next show or the show you're doing that night," said Jagger, who will be joined onstage with Keith Richards, Ronnie Wood and Charlie Watts. "A lot of prep time goes into that — keeping yourself (together) so you can get through the whole thing without screwing up physically and mentally and keeping yourself really sharp. But I really enjoy it."

In an interview Monday with The Associated Press, Jagger talked about the tour, only having three Grammys and appearing in the new-but-old Aretha Franklin concert documentary, "Amazing Grace," filmed at a Los Angeles church in 1972.

AP: What can fans expect from the U.S. shows?

Jagger: A good night out!



In this Nov. 14, 2016 file photo, Mick Jagger of the Rolling Stones poses for a portrait in New York. Associated Press

A good night out for all. We did a kind of similar tour in Europe this summer, so it's got a lot of fun. ...It's pretty high energy and it's a good show, I think. I'm into it.

AP: Is it different performing in the U.S. compared to other territories?

Jagger: Well, I don't have to speak foreign languages normally, so that's a big difference. When you tour Europe it's a lot of languages, so I try to do them all and that takes up some time, so (in the U.S.) I can concentrate on some other things. There's lots of regional differences, say between Houston and New York, so you've got to tune yourself to that a little bit. It's slightly about adjusting your set and attitude. It's different. It's nice that it's different, you don't want it to be completely homogenous. But it's great to be going around so many different areas, different states and so on.

AP: How's the new music you're writing coming along?

Jagger: It's going good. I've got lots of stuff. I'm do-

ing some more writing this week. And I'm always, like, messing around. I enjoy the writing process a lot. I mean, you always think the last thing you wrote is really wonderful and sometimes they're really not (laughs). But it's really fun doing it and it's really enjoyable doing new things.

AP: You don't even need to release music because of the band's catalog...

Jagger: Yeah, and we haven't released that much and I think it's a shame we haven't released more new music. So, I would hope we're going to release some music. We do have a huge catalog. The thing about the catalog is when we come up to doing a tour like this, I try and go back and find some stuff that we haven't done ever or we haven't done very much and try to mix it in, so it isn't always the same show.

But when you're playing a really big show, there's a certain amount of songs people want to hear — you don't have to play them — but there's a certain per-

centage of the songs that people will want to hear and if you don't do them, they'll go, "Wish he'd done that one."

AP: Were you happy with the success of the band's blues album, which won a Grammy this year?

Jagger: That was good. We weren't really setting out to do that. It just happened. It was ... stuff we'd known for years since we were kids and played in like clubs and we knew it all pretty well.

I really thought it was great and the response was really surprising, and I thought that was really wonderful. And I just hope we're going to come up with some new stuff as well.

AP: I'm surprised the Stones only have three Grammys, when other acts have 10 or 20. Does that bother you?

Jagger: No, I don't really care about Grammys very much. I'm not saying it's not nice to have, it's lovely to have. But it's not going to break my heart if I don't get Grammys and if my Grammys count is not as big as

other peoples. But it's very nice to get a Grammy. I appreciate it.

AP: I saw you in the new Aretha documentary...

Jagger: I didn't even see it yet! ...It was like an amazing event. It was so delayed and long and I don't think Aretha wanted it to come out for whatever reasons and there were so many technical problems with the sound, but I'm glad it's out and I can't wait to see it. ...It was quite a lot of preaching. Did they leave the preaching in?

AP: They did.

Jagger: I remember that very well.

AP: What else do you remember about that day?

Jagger: I remember it really well. It was just a wonderful event. It was quite mesmerizing from start to finish really. I think I went with Charlie (Watts) and I think Billy Preston quite possibly, but I don't know if you see him there. It was really an amazing, really fantastic day in church really, which I haven't had for a while.

AP: What do you remember about working with filmmaker Nicolas Roeg, who died a couple days ago and directed you in 1970's "Performance"?

Jagger: He was a wonderful filmmaker and I only worked with him that one time, and he was co-directing. And he's a wonderful cinematographer and did some great movies, and he was very quirky and all his films were very different, one to the other. He did some great work and he had a long life and I'm sad he passed away, but I always remember working with him; a wonderful guy to work with.

AP: I know you've produced a lot lately, from TV shows to documentaries, but do you want to do more acting?

Jagger: I just actually finished doing a cameo part in a movie which is kind of a twisted thriller, which is called "The Burnt Orange Heresy." I just finished doing that in Italy. I did a couple weeks on that, so it'll be out next year. It was only a small part, but fun to do. □

Millennial Money: How to just say no to gift exchanges

By **KELSEY SHEEHY**
Associated Press

Your college roommate. Your current roommate. Your book club. Your brunch crew. Your office secret Santa. Your cousins. Your siblings. Your parents. Your partner. Their parents. As your social circle expands, so does your holiday shopping list. But what happens when you can't really afford to buy gifts for everyone?

One option: Cut back on gift exchanges.

Opt out of the office secret Santa. Don't give your child's day care provider a present. Tell your roommate/cousins/friends that you can't exchange gifts this year. This move may seem harsh, but if the alternative is going into debt, it could be the best move.

Last year, 65 percent of millennial shoppers put gifts on their credit card. This year, roughly a third of them are still paying off that debt, according to an annual survey of holiday shoppers from NerdWallet.

CONSULT YOUR BUDGET

Now is a good time to make a budget, if you don't already have one. Factor in your normal expenses — rent or mortgage, groceries, bills, LaCroix and commuting costs — plus things like holiday travel and that ugly sweater bar crawl. Now you know what you have to spend on gifts this year.



In this Friday, Nov. 23, 2018, file photo shoppers browse the aisles during a Black Friday sale at a Target store in Newport, Ky.

PRIORITIZE YOUR GIFT LIST

Your budget may allow for some gifts, but there's a good chance you'll need to make some cuts.

WORK SECRET SANTA

This is a tricky one to navigate. One school of thought is to make the office exchange a priority. "If there's a work setting where everybody's participating, you must participate," says Jennifer Porter, a manners teacher and gift shop owner. "It shows goodwill. These are your colleagues. Pony up for that and feel good about it."

But office size and dynamics come into play. If your office is large enough, you may be able to opt out without anyone noticing. Just don't sign up. End of discussion.

It's harder to bow out in a smaller office or team, especially if the whole group gets together for the gift giving.

If it's simply not in your budget, talk to the person organizing your office exchange.

"Let them know, so you don't have to make a campaign about it," says Elaine Swann, an etiquette expert and founder of The Swann School of Protocol. You can spare them any extra details, Swann says, and spare yourself the need to tell all of your office mates. Another option: Consider regifting that candle you got last year — you know, the one in your closet. (Fun fact: 82 percent of millennials regift holiday presents, according to the survey from NerdWallet.)

FRIEND AND FAMILY GIFT EXCHANGES

Your immediate family is likely on your must-gift list, but extended family may not make the cut. The same is true for your closest friends versus your larger friend group — book club,

brunch club, bros club and so forth. It's OK to ask to scale back things to fit your budget.

You don't need to put up a front with your nearest and dearest. Remember, these are the people who know you best.

"You can be a little more frank and transparent," Swann says. "If there's anyone who's going to understand, it will be those you have a close relationship with. They will understand and almost expect it."

CHILD'S TEACHER, DAY CARE PROVIDER

In this instance, less is more. There's no need to tell the teacher they won't get a present from junior this year. A heartfelt note from you and your child will be cherished as much as another gift card or coffee mug, if not more.

HAVING 'THE TALK'

If you decide to end or opt out of a gift exchange, be honest and considerate. You want to halt the presents, not the relationship. Don't make up excuses or put off the conversation until a week before Christmas, Swann says.

"Be brutally honest, without being brutal," she says. "Frankly say, 'Thank you for thinking of me and wanting to include me, but I will not be able to participate.' Resist the urge to over explain."

You'll likely find people understand. In fact, they may even be relieved. Because, let's face it, most of us are strapped for cash over the holidays. But if they're not OK with it, give them some space.

"Don't try to fix it in that instance. Allow that person to go through the process of being disappointed," Swann says.

"Your role is not to get them over to your side. Your role is just to inform them of your intentions." □



In this Nov. 23, 2018, file photo shopping bags are stuffed into a car at Prime outlets on Black Friday in Lee, Mass.

Associated Press



Demitrius Moreno, left, loads a 55" TV into a van with his grandfather Albino Moreno, Friday, Nov. 23, 2018, at Porterville Marketplace in Porterville, Calif.

Associated Press